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Black Market The Beast of Jersey The Last
Testament of Oscar Wilde The Swarm Understanding
Popular Music Culture The Judas Goat (A Spenser
Mystery) All I Ever Wanted Rhode Island Red The
Diversity Delusion The Pursuit Widow's Walk The
Motion Picture Guide Chance An Introduction to
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More than any other writer, Raymond Chandler (1888-1959) is responsible for raising detective stories from the level of pulp fiction to literature. Chandler's hard-boiled private eye Philip Marlowe set the standard for rough, brooding heroes who managed to maintain a strong

sense of moral conviction despite a cruel and indifferent world. Chandler's seven novels, including *The Big Sleep* (1939) and *The Long Goodbye* (1953), with their pessimism and grim realism, had a direct influence on the emergence of film noir. Chandler worked to give his crime novels the flavor of his adopted city, Los Angeles, which was still something of a frontier town, rife with corruption and lawlessness. In addition to novels, Chandler wrote short stories and penned the screenplays for several films, including *Double Indemnity* (1944) and *Strangers on a Train* (1951). His work with Billy Wilder and Alfred Hitchcock on these projects was fraught with the difficulties of collaboration between established directors and an author who disliked having to edit his writing on demand. *Creatures of Darkness* is the first major biocritical study of Chandler in twenty years. Gene Phillips explores Chandler's unpublished script for *Lady in the Lake*, examines the process of adaptation of the novel *Strangers on a Train*, discusses the merits of the unproduced screenplay for *Playback*, and compares Howard Hawks's director's cut of *The Big Sleep* with the version shown in theaters. Through interviews he conducted with Wilder, Hitchcock, Hawks, and Edward Dmytryk over the past several decades, Phillips provides deeper insight into Chandler's sometimes difficult personality. Chandler's wisecracking Marlowe has spawned a thousand imitations. *Creatures of Darkness* lucidly explains the author's dramatic

impact on both the literary and cinematic worlds, demonstrating the immeasurable debt that both detective fiction and the neo-noir films of today owe to Chandler's stark vision. Mafia princess Shirley Meeker wants her husband back. So does her father the kingpin and a few other shady characters. Spenser and hawk head to Vegas to find Anthony Meeker and to confirm their suspicion that all these people aren't just missing Anthony's smile. And Spenser has to make some sense of some very disorganized crime...

Gateway is an academically-rich five-level course designed to lead teenage students to success in school-leaving and university entrance exams and prepare them for university and the world of work.

Poetic Effects: A Relevance Theory Perspective offers a pragmatic account of the effects achieved by the poetic use of rhetorical tropes and schemes. It contributes to the pragmatics of poetic style by developing work on stylistic effects in relevance theory. It also contributes to literary studies by proposing a new theoretical account of literariness in terms of mental representations and mental processes. The book attempts to define literariness in terms of text-internal linguistic properties, cultural codes or special purpose reading strategies, as well as suggestions that the notion of literariness should be dissolved or rejected. It challenges the accounts of language and verbal communication that underpin such positions and outlines the theory of verbal communication

developed within relevance theory that supports an explanatory account of poetic effects and a new account of literariness. This is followed by a broader discussion of philosophical and psychological issues having a bearing on the question of what is expressed non-propositionally in literary communication. The discussion of emotion, qualitative experience and, more specifically, aesthetic experience provides a fuller characterisation of poetic effects and 'poetic thought'. This extensively revised and expanded fifth edition of *Understanding Popular Music Culture* provides an accessible and comprehensive introduction to the production, distribution, consumption and meaning of popular music, and the debates that surround popular culture and popular music. Reflecting the continued proliferation of popular music studies, the new music industry in a digital age, and the emergence of new stars, this new edition has been reorganized and extensively updated throughout, making for a more coherent and sequenced coverage of the field. These updates include: two new chapters entitled 'The Real Thing': Authenticity, covers and the canon and 'Time Will Pass You By': Histories and popular memory new case studies on artists including The Rolling Stones, Lorde, One Direction and Taylor Swift further examples of musical texts, genres, and performers throughout including additional coverage of Electronic Dance Music expanded coverage on the importance of the back catalogue and the box set; reality

television and the music biopic greater attention to the role and impact of the internet and digital developments in relation to production, dissemination, mediation and consumption; including the role of social network sites and streaming services each chapter now has its own set of expanded references to facilitate further investigation. Additional resources for students and teachers can also be found on the companion website (www.routledge.com/cw/shuker), which includes additional case studies, links to relevant websites and a discography of popular music metagenres. Issued on the occasion of the exhibition: "David Bowie is," 23 March - 11 August, 2013 at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London. From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The 8-Week Blood Sugar Diet* and *The FastDiet* comes a new revolution in fitness. Lose weight and dramatically improve your health with high intensity training—just ten minutes a day, three times a week. Hailed as “a health revolution” by the New York Times, Michael Mosley’s *FastDiet*—also known as the 5:2 diet—gave the world a healthy new way to lose weight through intermittent fasting. Now, Dr. Mosley addresses the essential complement to the *FastDiet*—*FastExercise*—teaming up with leading sports scientist Professor Jamie Timmons and super-fit health journalist Peta Bee to turn conventional wisdom on its head when it comes to working out. Responding to the latest research on high-intensity training (HIT), *FastExercise*

dispenses with the practice of boring, time-consuming regimens, demonstrating that all it takes is half an hour a week to lower blood glucose levels, reduce your risk for disease, help you lose weight, and maximize your overall health. Throughout the book, the authors offer a range of workouts that take just ten minutes a day, three times a week, and can be done anytime, anywhere. Whether it's pedaling at high resistance while waiting for your kettle to boil or holding a plank during commercials, research has shown the extraordinary impact that ultra-short bursts of HIT can have, whatever your age or level of fitness. In addition, Michael Mosley and Peta Bee break down the science behind this radically different approach to exercise and give you the tools to take advantage of the most flexible and efficient method out there. It's a practical, enjoyable way to get maximal benefits in minimal time, short and fast, something that can become a sustainable part of your routine, as instinctive as brushing your teeth. By the New York Times bestselling author: a provocative account of the attack on the humanities, the rise of intolerance, and the erosion of serious learning America is in crisis, from the university to the workplace. Toxic ideas first spread by higher education have undermined humanistic values, fueled intolerance, and widened divisions in our larger culture. Chaucer, Shakespeare and Milton? Oppressive. American history? Tyranny. Professors correcting grammar

and spelling, or employers hiring by merit? Racist and sexist. Students emerge into the working world believing that human beings are defined by their skin color, gender, and sexual preference, and that oppression based on these characteristics is the American experience. Speech that challenges these campus orthodoxies is silenced with brute force. The Diversity Delusion argues that the root of this problem is the belief in America's endemic racism and sexism, a belief that has engendered a metastasizing diversity bureaucracy in society and academia. Diversity commissars denounce meritocratic standards as discriminatory, enforce hiring quotas, and teach students and adults alike to think of themselves as perpetual victims. From #MeToo mania that blurs flirtations with criminal acts, to implicit bias and diversity compliance training that sees racism in every interaction, Heather Mac Donald argues that we are creating a nation of narrowed minds, primed for grievance, and that we are putting our competitive edge at risk. But there is hope in the works of authors, composers, and artists who have long inspired the best in us. Compiling the author's decades of research and writing on the subject, *The Diversity Delusion* calls for a return to the classical liberal pursuits of open-minded inquiry and expression, by which everyone can discover a common humanity. When Nathan Smith, 51, is found in bed with a hole in his head it's hard not to imagine his young bride as

the one with the finger on the trigger. Even her lawyer thinks she is guilty. But given that Mary Smith is entitled to the best defence she can afford - and thanks to Nathan's millions, she can afford plenty - Spenser is hired to investigate Mary's bona fides. Her alibi is flimsy - she claims she was watching TV in the other room when the murder occurred. But the couple were seen fighting at a high profile cocktail party earlier that evening and the prosecution has a witness who says Mary once tried to hire him to kill Nathan. What's more she is too pretty, too made-up, too blonde and she sleeps around - just the kind of person a jury loves to hate. 'Robert B Parker's Spenser is one of the best private detectives in fiction' - Sunday Telegraph

The first explosive thriller featuring Peter Ash, a veteran who finds that the demons of war aren't easily left behind... "Lots of characters get compared to my own Jack Reacher, but Petrie's Peter Ash is the real deal."—Lee Child

Peter Ash came home from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan with only one souvenir: what he calls his "white static," the buzzing claustrophobia due to post-traumatic stress that has driven him to spend a year roaming in nature, sleeping under the stars. But when a friend from the Marines commits suicide, Ash returns to civilization to help the man's widow with some home repairs. Under her dilapidated porch, he finds more than he bargained for: the largest, ugliest, meanest dog he's ever encountered...and a Samsonite suitcase

stuffed with cash and explosives. As Ash begins to investigate this unexpected discovery, he finds himself at the center of a plot that is far larger than he could have imagined...and it may lead straight back to the world he thought he'd left for good. Huck Doyle is a professional golfer, a PGA "middler" who just manages to hold onto his tour card as he plays the small tournaments on the circuit. He also happens to be the son of a disgraced LAPD cop, a law school grad without a license to practice, and a registered private investigator. When Joniel Baker, a high profile baseball player, claims that he's been wrongly accused of murder, he asks his friend Doyle to get involved, to fly under the radar and find out things that the police can't—or won't. Though everything about Joniel and his whereabouts on the night of the murder points to his guilt, Huck decides to take on the case, "because he finds murder investigations a nice distraction from the violent and depressing world of the PGA." With the speed of Tiger Wood's swing, Don Dahler has joined the ranks of Tim Green and Mike Lupica in writing riveting mysteries with a dash of sports. Perfect for thriller readers and golf fans, *A Tight Lie* In this bestselling book that inspired the hit movie by the same name, starring Frank Sinatra, an apparent suicide forces a PI to reconsider his most famous case Joe Leland returned from World War II with a chest full of medals, but his greatest honor came after he traded his pilot's

wings for a detective's shield. Catching the Leikman killer made Joe a local hero, but the shine quickly wore off, and it wasn't long before he left the police force to start his own private agency. Years after his greatest triumph, Joe has a modest income and a quiet life—both of which may soon fall apart. When Colin MacIver dies at the local racetrack, the coroner rules that he took his own life, but his widow knows better. Because MacIver's life insurance policy doesn't cover suicide, his wife is left broke, desperate, and afraid for her safety. She hires Leland to find out who could have killed her gentle, unassuming husband—a simple question that will turn this humble city inside out.

THE PURSUIT by Janet Evanovich is an action-packed adventure featuring FBI agent Kate O'Hare and her secret partner, fugitive Nicolas Fox. Janet Evanovich's novels are: 'Pithy, witty and fast-paced' (The Sunday Times); 'Non-stop laughs with plenty of high jinks' (USA Today) Diamonds, castles and rocket-propelled grenade launchers: a typical Nick Fox date. International conman and expert thief Nick Fox has been kidnapped from right under his FBI handler's nose. Fortunately for him, he's been taken by a gang of thieves who want his expertise. Unfortunately for the thieves, his FBI handler is Kate O'Hare, and there's more than a professional connection between her and Nick. A diamond vault is the first target, but soon Nick and Kate have both joined the gang and are chasing around the Paris

sewers in an attempt to prevent a biological weapon being unleashed. All that stands between them and a global terror event are Kate's formidable weapons skills and Nick's well-honed charms... Kenton's career as a journalist depends on his facility with languages, his knowledge of European politics and his quick judgement. Where his judgement sometimes fails him, however, is in his personal life. When he travels to Nuremberg to investigate a story about a top-level meeting of Nazi officials, he inadvertently finds himself on a train bound for Austria after a bad night of gambling. Stranded with no money, Kenton jumps at the chance to earn a fee helping a refugee smuggle securities across the border. Yet he soon discovers that the documents he holds have far more than cash value - and that they could cost him his life ... Oscar Wilde never wrote a last testament during his isolation in Paris. This book takes the known facts about Oscar Wilde and converts them into a fictional portrait of the artist and memoir of a life of great contrast - a career which ended with a catastrophic fall from public favour. The first collection to explore infectious disease, agriculture, economics, and the nature of science together Thanks to breakthroughs in production and food science, agribusiness has been able to devise new ways to grow more food and get it more places more quickly. There is no shortage of news items on hundreds of thousands of hybrid poultry—each animal genetically identical to the next—packed

together in megabarns, grown out in a matter of months, then slaughtered, processed and shipped to the other side of the globe. Less well known are the deadly pathogens mutating in, and emerging out of, these specialized agro-environments. In fact, many of the most dangerous new diseases in humans can be traced back to such food systems, among them *Campylobacter*, Nipah virus, Q fever, hepatitis E, and a variety of novel influenza variants. Agribusiness has known for decades that packing thousands of birds or livestock together results in a monoculture that selects for such disease. But market economics doesn't punish the companies for growing Big Flu—it punishes animals, the environment, consumers, and contract farmers. Alongside growing profits, diseases are permitted to emerge, evolve, and spread with little check. “That is,” writes evolutionary biologist Rob Wallace, “it pays to produce a pathogen that could kill a billion people.” In *Big Farms Make Big Flu*, a collection of dispatches by turns harrowing and thought-provoking, Wallace tracks the ways influenza and other pathogens emerge from an agriculture controlled by multinational corporations. Wallace details, with a precise and radical wit, the latest in the science of agricultural epidemiology, while at the same time juxtaposing ghastly phenomena such as attempts at producing featherless chickens, microbial time travel, and neoliberal Ebola. Wallace also offers sensible alternatives to lethal agribusiness.

Some, such as farming cooperatives, integrated pathogen management, and mixed crop-livestock systems, are already in practice off the agribusiness grid. While many books cover facets of food or outbreaks, Wallace's collection appears the first to explore infectious disease, agriculture, economics and the nature of science together. *Big Farms Make Big Flu* integrates the political economies of disease and science to derive a new understanding of the evolution of infections. Highly capitalized agriculture may be farming pathogens as much as chickens or corn. *Five Faces of Modernity* is a series of semantic and cultural biographies of words that have taken on special significance in the last century and a half or so: modernity, avant-garde, decadence, kitsch, and postmodernism. The concept of modernity--the notion that we, the living, are different and somehow superior to our predecessors and that our civilization is likely to be succeeded by one even superior to ours--is a relatively recent Western invention and one whose time may already have passed, if we believe its postmodern challengers. Calinescu documents the rise of cultural modernity and, in tracing the shifting senses of the five terms under scrutiny, illustrates the intricate value judgments, conflicting orientations, and intellectual paradoxes to which it has given rise. *Five Faces of Modernity* attempts to do for the foundations of the modernist critical lexicon what earlier terminological studies have done for

such complex categories as classicism, baroque, romanticism, realism, or symbolism and thereby fill a gap in literary scholarship. On another, more ambitious level, Calinescu deals at length with the larger issues, dilemmas, ideological tensions, and perplexities brought about by the assertion of modernity. At twenty-one, Kathy Valentine was at the Whisky in Los Angeles when she met a guitarist from a fledgling band called the Go-Go's—and the band needed a bassist. The Go-Go's became the first multi-platinum-selling, all-female band to play instruments themselves, write their own songs, and have a number one album. Their debut, *Beauty and the Beat*, spent six weeks at the top of the Billboard 200 and featured the hit songs "We Got the Beat" and "Our Lips Are Sealed." The record's success brought the pressures of a relentless workload and schedule culminating in a wild, hazy, substance-fueled tour that took the band from the club circuit to arenas, where fans, promoters, and crew were more than ready to keep the party going. For Valentine, the band's success was the fulfillment of a lifelong dream—but it's only part of her story. *All I Ever Wanted* traces the path that took her from her childhood in Texas—where she all but raised herself—to the height of rock 'n' roll stardom, devastation after the collapse of the band that had come to define her, and the quest to regain her sense of self after its end. Valentine also speaks candidly about the lasting effects of parental betrayal, abortion, rape, and

her struggles with drugs and alcohol—and the music that saved her every step of the way. Populated with vivid portraits of Valentine's interactions during the 1980s with musicians and actors from the Police and Rod Stewart to John Belushi and Rob Lowe, *All I Ever Wanted* is a deeply personal reflection on a life spent in music. 'Fascinating... spectacularly gory... fast-paced.' Mail on Sunday

A GRUESOME SECRET UNEARTHED When a human skull is dug up in a garden near Boston, Dr Maura Isles is called in to investigate. She quickly discovers that the skeleton - that of a young woman - has been buried for over a hundred years. But who was the woman? And how did she die? It is the 1830s, and an impoverished medical student, Norris Marshall, is forced to procure corpses in order to further his studies in human anatomy. It's a gruesome livelihood that will bring him into contact with a terrifying serial killer who slips from ballrooms to graveyards and into autopsy suites. And who is far, far closer than Norris could ever imagine... Readers are gripped by *The Bone Garden*: ***** 'A captivating tale . . . full of mystery, despair, horror, and the eventual truth.' ***** 'Compelling . . . kept me awake into the night.' ***** 'Absolutely riveting . . . I was hooked from the very first page.' When a cupcake war ends in murder, Sophie Winston searches for a taste of justice in the seventh Domestic Diva mystery. Sophie and her BFF, Nina Reid Norwood, share a sweet spot for animals. So

Sophie is delighted to help when Nina cooks up Cupcakes and Pupcakes—a fund-raising event for animal shelters. But Old Town is in for a whole batch of trouble when a partner leaves Sugar Baby Bakery and unveils her competing cupcakery, Sugar Mama, precisely as the fund-raiser gets under way. Just as it seems nothing else can go wrong, Sugar Baby's sole remaining employee is found dead. Suspicion falls on the feuding owners, but the scrumptious new guy in town is also raising some eyebrows. Now Sophie and Nina have to sift through the clues and discover who isn't as sweet as they seem... Includes delicious recipes and entertaining tips! 'Nobody does it better than Parker' - Sunday Times

Jesse Stone has a problem no officer of the law likes to face: Dead bodies keep appearing, but clues do not. A man takes his dog out for a run on the beach, only to be discovered hours later - with two holes in his chest. A woman drives her Volvo to the store to do some grocery shopping, and is then found dead, her body crumpled behind her loaded shopping cart. A commuter takes a shortcut home from the train, and never makes it back to his house. Hunting down a serial killer is difficult and dangerous in any town, but in a town like Paradise, where the selectmen and the media add untold pressures, Jesse feels considerable heat. Already walking an emotional tightrope, he stumbles; he's spending too much time with the bottle, and with his ex-wife - neither of which helps him, or the case. And the harder these

outside forces push against him, the more Jesse retreats into himself, convinced - despite all the odds - that it's up to him alone to stop the killing. 'Robert B. Parker is one of the greats of the American hard-boiled genre' - Guardian

Look out for the other novels in the Jesse Stones series published by No Exit Press: Night Passage, Trouble in Paradise, Death in Paradise, Stone Cold, Sea Change, High Profile, Damned If You Do, Robert B. Parker's Blind Spot, Robert B. Parker's The Devil Wins, Robert B. Parker's Debt to Pay, Robert B. Parker's The Hangman's Sonnet, Robert B. Parker's Colorblind and Robert B. Parker's The Bitterest Pill Finished all the Jesse Stone mysteries? Search for the Spenser series and the Sunny Randall series to meet Robert B. Parker's other iconic detectives!

A Wall Street crash like never before... A shocking explosion at the Wall Street stock exchange injures hundreds of people and brings devastation to one of the world's major trading centres. A terrorist organisation claims responsibility for planting the bomb, but their motive is unclear. As federal agent Archer Carroll and trading enforcement director Caitlin Dillon investigate the attack, all the intelligence points to one thing. The terrorists don't simply want to bring chaos to America - they want to run the entire country. When boxing trainer and long-time friend Henry Cimoli asks for Spenser's help with a heavy-handed developer who is sending thugs to pressure Henry to sell his beachfront condo, Spenser and his apprentice,

Zebulon Sixkill, follow a trail to a beautiful woman, a megalomaniac Vegas kingpin, and plans for a sprawling casino in Boston. **A New York Times Best Mystery Novel of the Year** 'This year's most original fictional detective - a sassy, black intellectual and saxophonist who is plunged into mayhem when an undercover cop gets killed in her apartment' Good Housekeeping on Rhode Island Red The first book in the Nanette Hayes series introduces us to New Yorker and jazz-loving street musician Nanette, whose love life leads her into some very hot water. Nanette's day is not off to a good start. Her on-again, off-again relationship with Walter is off. . . again, and when she offers a fellow busker a place to stay for the night he ends up murdered on her kitchen floor. To make matters worse, the busker turns out to have been an undercover cop. And his former partner has taken an immediate and extreme dislike to Nanette. When she finds that the dead man stashed a wad of cash in her apartment, cash that could go to help his blind girlfriend, Nanette's desire to do the right thing lands her in trouble. Soon she's on the hunt for a legendary saxophone worth its weight in gold. But there are plenty of people who would kill for the priceless instrument, and Nanette's new beau just might be one of them. Originally published in the 1990s, this stylish piece of noir is an original and page-turning read starring an unforgettable heroine. PRAISE FOR THE NANETTE HAYES MYSTERIES: 'The sweet, clear sound of Nanette's musical

voice keeps us on her corner, tossing all the change we've got' The New York Times on Rhode Island Red 'This Grace Jones lookalike with a degree in French is a splendid creation' Sunday Telegraph 'A terrific novel, from those witty, subversive opening sentences, to the edgy, melancholy and very satisfying ending' Margo Jefferson, author of *Negroland* Steve Fraser is looking forward to his final weekend of a three-year stint on the Southeast Asian island of Sunda when Islamic terrorists attempt to seize control. When the government launches a counter attack, Fraser finds himself caught in the crossfire. Provides a six-week weight loss regimen based around the author's 5:2 system, where the dieter eats normally for five days and then fasts for two, and includes recipes, meal plans, and an exercise plan. Gabriel Allon is back and out for revenge From the No.1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Black Widow* comes the thrilling new blockbuster featuring legendary spy, assassin and art restorer Gabriel Allon. *Music in Words* is a compact guide to researching and writing about music, addressing all the issues that anyone who writes about music--from students to professional musicians and critics--may confront when putting together anything from brief program notes to a lengthy thesis. The book is a writing guide and a reference manual in one: the first part, a "how to" section, offers a clear explanation of the purpose of music research and how it is to be done, including basic introductions to the most

necessary tools for musical inquiry (with special emphasis on strategic use of the internet), and how they can be accessed and used. The second part is a compendium of information on style and sources for quick reference, including a straightforward presentation of the purpose and use of citation and reference systems as they are applied to and in music. As a whole, the volume gives readers a clear picture of how to write about music at different levels and for different purposes in a handy, thoroughly cross-referenced format. This American edition has been thoroughly revised and expanded, and features an extensive section on writing for the Internet and new sections on writing for jazz, popular music, world musics, and ethnography. Additionally, a companion website presents a broad range of writing samples and links to key resources.

She was killed on their wedding day...but he couldn't let her go. Tall and handsome Dr. Spencer Py was a well-respected environmental Scientist. But one moment can change everything. When a car crash kills his new bride Melanie and leaves him bound to a wheelchair, he's left racked with despair over his failure to save her. Grief turns to obsession, and one fateful night he stumbles upon plans for the Spiricom on the internet, Thomas Edison's devise for communicating with the dead. Determined to be united with his beloved, he embarks on a journey to build the device, never imagining the results, and unwittingly drawing Detective James Early into the scariest case of

his life. Ex-mob enforcer-turned-private investigator Isaiah Coleridge pits himself against a rich and powerful foe when he digs into a possible murder and a sketchy real-estate deal worth billions. Ex-majordomo and bodyguard to an industrial tycoon-cum-U.S. senator, Badja Adeyemi is in hiding and shortly on his way to either a jail cell or a grave, depending on who finds him first. In his final days as a free man, he hires Isaiah Coleridge to tie up a loose end: the suspicious death of his nephew four years earlier. At the time police declared it an accident, and Adeyemi isn't sure it wasn't, but one final look may bring his sister peace. So it is that Coleridge and his investigative partner, Lionel Robard, find themselves in the upper reaches of New York State, in a tiny town that is home to outsized secrets and an unnerving cabal of locals who are protecting them. At the epicenter of it all is the site of a stalled supercollider project, an immense subterranean construction that may have an even deeper, more insidious purpose. . . . Whales begin sinking ships. Toxic, eyeless crabs poison Long Island's water supply. The North Sea shelf collapses, killing thousands in Europe. Around the world, countries are beginning to feel the effects of the ocean's revenge as the seas and their inhabitants begin a violent revolution against mankind. At stake is the survival of the Earth's fragile ecology—and ultimately, the survival of the human race itself. The apocalyptic

catastrophes of *The Day After Tomorrow* meet the watery menace of *The Abyss* in this gripping, scientifically realistic, and utterly imaginative thriller. "Pulls you into the depths of a secret world from the first page. Ian Smith's novel is unmissable." —Harlan Coben, author of *Missing You*

Spencer Collins thinks his life at Harvard will be all about basketball and pre-med; hard workouts and grinding work in class. The friends he's made when he hits the storied ivy-clad campus from a very different life in urban Chicago are a happy bonus. But Spencer is about to be introduced to the most mysterious inner sanctum of the inner sanctum: to his surprise, he's in the running to be "punched" for one of Harvard's elite final clubs. The Delphic Club is known as "the Gas" for its crest of three gas-lit flames, and as Spencer is considered for membership, he's plunged not only into the secret world of male privilege that the Gas represents, but also into a century-old club mystery. Because at the heart of the Delphic, secured deep inside its guarded mansion club, is another secret society: a shadowy group of powerful men known as The Ancient Nine. Who are The Ancient Nine? And why is Spencer—along with his best friend Dalton Winthrop—summoned to the deathbed of Dalton's uncle just as Spencer is being punched for the club? What does the lore about a missing page from one of Harvard's most historic books mean? And how does it connect to religion, murder, and to the King James Bible, if not to King James

himself? The Ancient Nine is both a coming of age novel and a swiftly plotted story that lets readers into the ultimate of closed worlds with all of its dark historical secrets and unyielding power. Private eye Spenser has never had any difficulty handling women. But when four stunningly beautiful trophy wives hire him to protect them against a blackmailer threatening to expose their infidelities, even he must admit that they look like trouble. Tracking down Gary Eisenhower, the blackmailer and serial adulterer, isn't too difficult - but almost in spite of himself Spenser finds that he quite likes the guy. Certainly the women, with their loose purse-strings and looser morals, and their loveless marriages to rich, powerful, corrupt men, are hard to feel sorry for. But a killing soon changes the complexion of the case, and draws Spenser into the world of Boston's moneyed aristocracy: a world of corruption, vice and murder. As the bodies start to pile up, Spenser must decide which of his friends he can trust. 'One of the great series in the history of the American detective story' New York Times Private detective Spenser has travelled to London in search of the bombers who attacked his client's family. His job is to catch them. Or kill them. His client isn't choosy. But there are nine killers to one Spenser - long odds. Hawk helps balance the equation. The rest depends on a wild plan. Spenser will get one of the terrorists to play Judas Goat - to lead him to the others.

Trouble is, he hasn't counted on her being blond, beautiful and very dangerous. Praise for Robert B. Parker: 'Nobody does it better' Publishers Weekly 'Tougher, stronger, better educated, and far more amusing than Sam Spade, Phil Marlowe or Lewis Archer . . . Spenser gives the connoisseur of that rare combination of good detective fiction and good literature a chance to indulge himself' Boston Globe 'Spenser is a constant revelation for even long-time Parker fans' Milwaukee Sentinel 'One of the great series in the history of the detective story' New York Times Book Review 'Reading Parker is like swimming downstream in a river of adrenaline' Boston Observer 'Robert Parker is still top gun in the tough-guy school of fiction' Playboy 'Spenser gives the tribe of hard-boiled wonders a new vitality and complexity' Chicago Sun-Times 'The sassiest, funniest, most-enjoyable-to-read-about private eye around today... the legitimate heir to the Hammett-Chandler-Macdonald tradition' Cincinnati Post 'Reading a Spenser novel is like a family reunion - it makes one feel good' Library Journal