



## BOOKSELLERS

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### Hours

Monday through Friday  
10:30 am - 5:30 pm  
Wednesday evenings to 8 pm  
Saturday:  
10:30 am - 6 pm

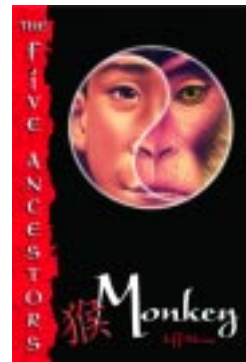


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Hectic, hectic, hectic! We have a lot on our calendar, both in-store and out-of-store events. We're dashing off this quick newsletter now, and will be back shortly with a longer edition and more details.

If you're not already subscribing to our e-mail newsletter, we'd like to invite you to sign up now. It's not all the same information that you see in this paper newsletter, and some announcements come out first in the e-mails. To subscribe, visit our website at [www.themysterycompany.com](http://www.themysterycompany.com); there's a signup box on the homepage, in the lower left corner, or give us a call and we'll set you up.

In addition to a full schedule of events, we have lots of new titles that we're looking forward to this fall. One title that really stands out is *Monkey* (Random House, \$15.95) second in Jeff Stone's Five Ancestors series, due here on September 27. The first in the series is *Tiger* (Random House, \$15.95). *Tiger* is our best-selling book of this year, and we know you all are really looking forward this sequel. (We've had a chance to read it already, and it's terrific.) Though we don't have Jeff here for an event until November, we'll have copies available on the release date, and we can even make arrangements for signed and/or inscribed books on time. **Special offer on advance orders: preorder *Monkey* no later than 9/26, and we'll give you 20% off — even for signed copies.** (20% is instead of, not in addition to your frequent buyer's program discount.) This is an experiment for us; we hope this will help you decide to buy this book from us.

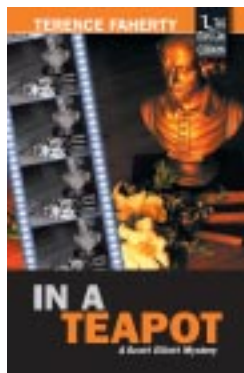


**Preorder by 9/26  
and save 20%!**

Booksellers talk about this as a sign of tough times: sales have been soft over the past few weeks, and at the same time, you've brought in lots and lots of used books to trade in. Who isn't being squeezed by \$3 gas prices? We sympathize, but for the next few weeks, we just can't take any more used books for trade-in. We need to work through what's already been dropped off, and we need to see more books sold out of our used section (the three red cases in the back of the store). Fortunately, one of you has reminded us that there's a really good use for used books right now. We will take used books for donation to literacy organizations in the areas affected by Katrina. Bring in books now through October 31, and we'll take care of boxing them up and sending them south. To encourage donations, we'll give you a coupon for \$5 in used books from our shelves that you can use on the day you drop off five or more used books for donation.

## Upcoming events

### Wednesday, September 21, 7 pm: Terence Faherty



A film version of *The Tempest*, William Shakespeare's final play, featuring the cream of Hollywood's aristocratic British Colony? When the project is announced in 1948, it sounds like an idea that can't miss. But then the whispers start about one of those British actors and a burlesque queen, and murder soon follows. Enter Scott Elliott, top operative of Hollywood Security and the soon-to-be husband of the lovely Ella Englehart. To get to the altar, Elliott must dodge blonde bombshells and gangsters, and solve a mystery that echoes Shakespeare's crowning work.

*In a Teapot* (Crum Creek/The Mystery Company, \$18.00) is a new 23,000-word novella that's long enough to have colorful Hollywood characters speaking in razor-sharp dialogue, and plenty of twists and turns leading to a neat ending, while at the same time being short enough to read in a very satisfying evening. I've designed what I hope you'll agree is an elegant hardcover package for this lovely story. The book is illustrated by Robin Agnew.

Series fans will want to know that *In a Teapot* falls in between the first and second full-length novels featuring Scott Elliott, *Kill Me Again* (available in a paperback Mystery

*continued* ➤



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Company edition, \$14.00) and the Shamus Award winning *Come Back Dead*, and it's the story in which Scott and Ella get married.

Terence Faherty will visit on Wednesday, September 21 at 7 pm to talk about and sign copies of *In A Teapot*.

#### **Thursday, September 22, noon**

Discussion: *The Beekeeper's Apprentice* by Laurie King, plus Arthur Conan Doyle's short story "A Scandal in Bohemia."

#### **Saturday, September 24**

##### **Sisters in Crime meeting featuring Brenda Robertson Stewart (at noon)**

Open to all — members, prospective members and non-members alike. At 11:30 am, there will be a chapter business meeting. Beginning at 12 noon, we'll have a speaker. This month it's Brenda Robertson Stewart, a forensic artist specializing in facial reconstruction from skulls. She will talk about her first novel, *Power in the Blood* (\$12.95), a Lettie Sue Wolfe mystery. Brenda will also bring along a skull and do a short demonstration of her work.

Author's website: [www.brendarobertsonstewart.com](http://www.brendarobertsonstewart.com)

Here's Moni's review of *Power in the Blood*:

Loretta Sue Wolfe is a sculptress who has found an unusual niche for her artistic skills — she reconstructs skulls for forensic identification purposes. Known as the "skull lady" and recently widowed, she has moved back to Southern Indiana where she was born and raised. Her skills soon come into demand when an anthropologist at Indiana University asks her to reconstruct the facial features on a skull with a bullet-hole, found in a nearby limestone sinkhole.

As Lettie's work progresses, she realizes that she knows the deceased girl. Martha Freeman, a black girl and the sister of Lettie's childhood best friend Sassy, went missing 30 years ago. Local law enforcement had done only a cursory investigation and then chalked her disappearance up as a runaway. Marty's reappearance as a murder victim sets the small Southern Indiana town abuzz. Lettie makes the decision to pursue an investigation herself, thus setting the cat among the pigeons. Now, she is a target for the murderer who'd gotten away with killing Marty all those years ago.

What sets Stewart's mystery apart from other cold case murders

is the Southern Indiana setting. From persimmon pudding to blue grass music to snake-handling preachers and limestone quarries, the author evokes a world that not even many native Hoosiers see or know.

#### **Wednesday, September 28, 7 pm**

Discussion: *Lie in the Dark* by Dan Fesperman

#### **Saturday, October 1, 2 pm: Brian Freeman**

First novelist Brian Freeman visits to talk about and sign copies of *Immoral* (St. Martin's, \$22.95), one of this season's hottest new titles. This is a high-octane suspense novel about the investigation into the disappearance of a teenage girl in Duluth, Minnesota, similar in some ways to another disappearance two years earlier. Jaci and I have both read this already — neither of us could put it down. We'll have more details about this event soon.

Note: this book has already gone into a second printing. We expect to have some first editions, but if you want to be sure to get a signed first, please call to reserve now.

Author's website: [www.bfreemanbooks.com](http://www.bfreemanbooks.com)

#### **Saturday, Oct, 8, 3 pm: Masters discussion**

Our sixth Masters of Mystery discussion: Michael Koryta on *The Long Goodbye* by Raymond Chandler, in which Philip Marlowe's friendship with an alcoholic Englishman leads to danger when his friend becomes a suspect in his wife's murder. Michael Koryta's first novel, *Tonight I Said Goodbye*, won the Private Eye Writers of America/St. Martin's Press first novel contest.

#### **Monday, October 24, 7 pm: Michael Lewin**

Michael Z. Lewin visits to talk about and sign copies of *Eye Opener* (Five Star, \$25.95), the long-awaited new novel in the Albert Samson private eye series, set here in Indianapolis.

#### **Tuesday, November 1, 7 pm: Nero Blanc**

Crosswords and chocolate with Steve Zettler and Cordelia Frances Biddle, the husband and wife team who write crossword mysteries under the pen name Nero Blanc. The new title is *A Crossworder's Delight* (Berkley, \$10.95).