Dymocks Book Review September / October 2004

The Booklover

There is a lot happening in the Booklover this month, and plenty of fantastic new titles to match. Now in full colour, the Booklover provides even better coverage of the best new releases. There is a special Crime section on page three, to celebrate Dymocks Crime Month in October. September also sees the launch of a new publication, the Young Booklover, produced especially for younger readers, which starts with an eight-page back to school special edition, available in Dymocks stores.

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September Author of the Month

James Patterson

James Patterson has become firmly established as the bestselling author in the UK, with novels such as *Kiss the Girls*, *Along Came a Spider* and *The Third Degree*. His popularity, and that of the hero of his books, Alex Cross, continues to grow worldwide with his latest book demolishing thriller London Bridges. Global terrorism has become a stark reality, and major cities around the world are under threat, unless impossible demands are met by their governments. Alex Cross heads up a joint international task force, as the bombs keep exploding, and his adventures manage to stay one step ahead in a battle of wits and cunning. Patterson fans can also look forward to the paperback release of Cross' previous case *The Big Bad Wolf*.

London Bridges Available September

The Big Bad Wolf Paperback Available September

October Author of the Month

Ken Follett

Ken Follett has been a regular on bestseller lists ever since he wrote the spy thriller *The Eye of the Needle* in 1978. His repertoire has also included cold war tales such as *Code to Zero*, and the story of a female espionage unit in World War 2, *Jackdaws*. His latest book *Whiteout*, revolves around the head of a research company, whose future is riding on the development of a vaccine for a deadly virus, while his grown children are looking forward to a fat inheritance. The company's security director is staking her future on keeping the vaccine safe, and after a sample of the virus is stolen, a local reporter latches onto what is looking like a career-making story. Meanwhile the thieves who stole the virus are hoping to make an easy sale to their client. Their worlds collide one snowy night in a remote house in Scotland, cut off by the stormy weather, and the suspense crackles as the pressure builds, and it becomes apparent just what the plans for the virus are.

Whiteout Available October

September Book of the Month

Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell
Susannah Clarke

A tale set in an alternate 19th Century England, where magic is whispered of in the shadows, although no one really believes in it. Until, that is, rumours of the strange powers of a certain Mr. Norrell start to spread. He soon comes to the attention of the government, who enlist him in the war against Napoleon. Upon moving to London he meets another magician, the young Jonathan Strange, who becomes his pupil. Their partnership is powerful, but fraught with conflict, as each sees the use of magic in wholly separate ways. As Jonathan becomes ever more enthralled by stories of the great magicians of legend, the Raven King, Mr Norrell only sees the danger of what may result in tapping into great a power. A quirky and elegant novel, which proves to be a compelling read.

Available September

October Book of the Month

Jamie's Dinners
Jamie Oliver

In his new cookbook, young chef Jamie Oliver, author of *The Naked Chef*, has put together a collection of family-oriented recipes, designed to be highly practical, undemanding and realistic in their preparation. There are over 100 new recipes, that don't require the time or skills of a restaurant chef, but which should be at home in the family kitchen, providing inspiration for wholesome and nutritional meals with the minimum of fuss. Jamie aims to inspire confidence in the kitchen and pleasure in cooking, but above all to show that healthy eating habits can be enjoyed by everyone.

Available October

Reserve any title today at www.dymocks.com.hk

DYMOCKS

The Exile
Alan Folsom

Available September

From the author of the explosive novels *The Day After Tomorrow* and *Day of Confession*, comes a new tale of international intrigue that opens in Los Angeles, but quickly careers across Britain, Europe and Russia. What started as a simple case of stalking and murder in an LA train develops into a plot to resurrect the Romanov family, and overthrow the Russian government. A high-energy and fast-paced nail-biter.

Dark Justice
Jack Higgins

Now Available

The grand master of action and suspense returns. Terrorist activity is uncovered in Britain, centred around a mosque including disaffected females, and sending them to training camps in the Middle East. At first it seems a straightforward case, but the situation soon becomes more complex as investigations uncover the origins of the funding for the operations. It appears that the mosque is receiving support from a Russian billionaire, who seeks to create instability in the west, and shift the geopolitical axis back in Russia's favour.

High Degree of Atrocity
Jay Scott Kanes

Now Available

Former local resident Kanes weaves a tale set in 2009 of political unrest on the streets of Hong Kong. Unemployment, deflation and disease have racked the territory, and universal suffrage is as distant as ever. A plot to undermine the administration leads to shots being fired during a democracy march. The central government uses this as an excuse to curb the territory's rights and freedoms even further, and the PLA move in. More blood flows, and the effects of the violence spread like ripples across the globe. It now falls to a veteran democracy campaigner and her husband to rescue Hong Kong from the abyss into which it is staring.

The Algebraist
Iain M. Banks

Available October

A spectacular science fiction tale painted across the grand canvas of an interstellar empire in the far future. Fassin Taak is assigned to the Nasqueron court, a society on the fringe of the galaxy. He has been set in search of a secret, hidden within the kingdom for millions of years, that could help to prevent a galactic war that is brewing with ever greater intensity as each day passes. An elaborately crafted world is the setting for an intriguing story from one of science fiction's leading imaginative minds.

Going Postal
Terry Pratchett

Going Postal
Available September

Monstrous Regiment
Paperback Available September

The Discworld comes to life once more in a new story from the murky streets of Ankh Morpork. Con artist Moist von Lipwig stands at a crossroads in his career, having landed in jail and faced with either execution, or a job heading the postal service. Not such an easy decision as it sounds, as von Lipwig now finds himself dealing with the worst that the weather and the local canine population can throw at him, not to mention the competitive tactics of the scheming chairman of the Grand Trunk Semaphore company. It's a dog eats postman world, and maybe von Lipwig would have been better facing the executioner. Also look out for *Monstrous Regiment*, now available in paperback.

The Last Kingdom
Bernard Cornwell

Available October

From the author of the Grail Quest and Sharpe series, comes a powerful saga set during the reign of Alfred the Great, King of England, as he attempts to unite under 'Power of prayers' from a bloodthirsty Viking army. This is the story of Uhtred, son of an English aristocrat who was orphaned as a child, captured and raised by Danes. As he grows up, he finds his loyalty divided between the land of his forefathers and his adopted homeland. With a new invasion of Britain planned, he will finally have to decide on which side he will stand when the battle lines are drawn.

Are You Afraid of the Dark?
Sidney Sheldon

September

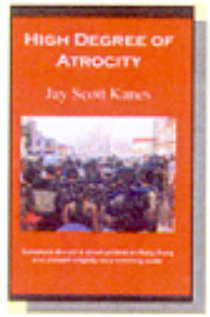
A welcome return for a highly popular author. Four men have been killed in different cities in what at first seem to be unconnected incidents. When two of the men's widowed wives are also targeted, and it seems that there really is a link between the deaths of their husbands, they must discover what was behind the killings without delay if they are to avenge their husbands' deaths, and save their own lives.

Adrian Mole and the Weapons of Mass Destruction
Sue Townsend

Available October

Now beyond the Cappuccino Years, Adrian is in his late thirties, a family man with a temperamental relationship with girlfriend Marigold. Based on warnings from Tony Blair about Iraq's ability to launch missiles towards Europe, Adrian has cancelled his holiday in Cyprus. However he can't get his deposit back from the travel agent unless he can prove good reason to cancel. Perhaps a letter to the Prime Minister will help? Surely he has proof about Iraq, and wouldn't mind writing a note about it? As ever, Adrian continues his comedic muddle through life in his own indomitable way, older but probably not wiser.

High Degree of Atrocity
Jay Scott Kanes



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