



HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

...VOLUME 3: NUMBER 7.....

JULY 2008

Mysterious Ladies

Scram, Sam Spade! Take a powder, Phillip Marlow! The tables have turned in the detective novel that used to feature the hard-boiled male private investigator and the sultry and maybe shady lady client. The five writers featured this month have given the leading role to latter day Nancy Drews, and the action is just as hot!

Featured This Month:

The Modern Nancy Drew: Review by Betty Reynolds

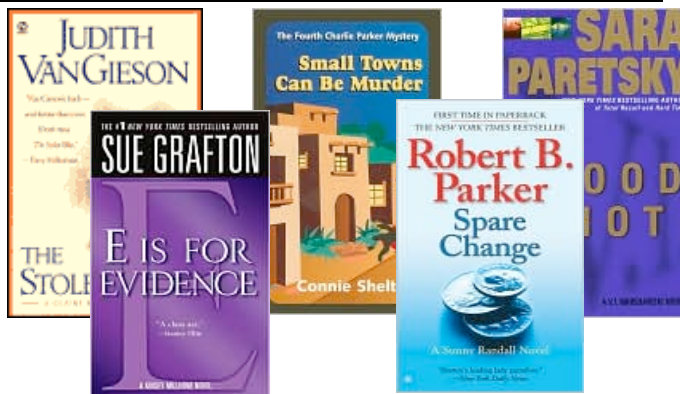
As a pre-teen I knew that I was going to grow up to be Carolyn Keene's girl detective, Nancy Drew. This ever-popular series for young girls has been around since 1930 and the blue-eyed, blond Nancy has been resourcefully solving mysteries in her Midwestern hometown ever since. As a role model the independent Nancy can't be beat. There are few fictional role models for librarians, but that's what I became instead. However, I like to think that I have been independent and resourceful thanks to Nancy.

Now I read adult mysteries about women private investigators. First to come to mind is Sue Grafton's alphabet mysteries starting with *A is for Alibi* and running through her most recent *T is for Trespass*. Grafton's character is Kinsey Milhone; her locale is Santa Teresa, California (a thinly disguised Santa Barbara in the 1970's). Kinsey is an unmarried, tough gal who isn't afraid to tell about the cases she loses as well as those she solves—rather unusual in the detective genre. Read the books in order as Kinsey's life changes as she grows older.

Another regional P.I. is Sara Paretsky's V.I. Warshawski, set on Chicago's south side. V.I. never fails to solve her case, though not always happily. Like Kinsey, V.I. occasionally calls on her elderly male neighbor to get her through the toughest of situations.

In Boston, Robert B. Parker has created a woman P.I. named Sunny Randall. Sunny is nearly as tough as Parker's more familiar characters, Spenser and Hawk, though unlike Spenser she does not have a "main squeeze".

New Mexico has two authors who write in this genre. Connie Shelton's character is Charlie Parker who works as an accountant in her brother's Albuquerque private investigations business. Most often he is out of town when the interesting cases come in and Charlie must step into the breach. Charlie also flies a helicopter as a sideline.



Judith Van Gieson's first character was Neil Hamel, an Albuquerque lawyer who solves crimes like a P.I. For some reason Van Gieson has abandoned Neil for a most unlikely character. Her latest books in the mystery genre feature UNM librarian, Claire Reynier, who solves book-related crimes. Well now, haven't we come full circle!

New At the Library

Books on CD:

Honeymoons Can Be Murder by Connie Shelton

Nonfiction:

From the Adolescent Mental Health Initiative:

Next to Nothing by Carrie Arnold

Monochrome Days by Cait Irwin

Mind Race by Patrick Jamieson

The Thought That Counts by Jared Kant

Me, Myself, and Them by Kurt Snyder

Chasing the High by Kyle Keegan

What You Must Think of Me by Emily Ford

Eight Stories Up by Dequincy Lezine

Notes from the Board:

The Library is looking for volunteers to fill unstaffed hours. Available? Please contact Garland Bills .

The Bullocks receipt program ends on July 31. Please gather those final receipts and turn them in at the Library.

Library Hours:

Sunday & Monday: CLOSED Tuesday: 6:30 – 8:30pm
Wednesday: 1:00 – 4:00pm Thursday: 6:30–8:30pm
Friday: 10:00am – 1:00pm Saturday 10:00am–2:00pm

For a complete listing of Library materials, visit our website:

<http://www.zianet.com/hbolib>

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