

Patty's Shelf

Important Note: All reviews reflected on this page are solely the expressed opinions of the reviewer. Our reviewers are not paid or given any incentive by any publisher.

January Reviews

Title: Just After Sunset

Classification: Fiction

Author: Stephen King

Publisher: Scribner

Copyright: 2008

Book Rating: 

Reviewer Comments: This book showcases fourteen short stories by King. The stories are pretty decent though a few run a little flat and off the mark. But there are a few that I wouldn't mind seeing as a full blown novel! I hope the next book out by King is another full length novel.

Title: Scarpetta

Classification: Fiction

Author: Patricia Cornwell

Publisher: G.P. Putnam's Sons

Copyright: 2008

Book Rating: 

Reviewer Comments: The latest in the Scarpetta [series](#) finds Kay called in to work on an investigation of a little person. The possible suspect, the victim's boyfriend, requests Scarpetta specifically to conduct the examination. While everyone suspects his guilt, Kay investigates the case and begins to have doubts about his guilt. All the while, someone with a grudge against Scarpetta, publishes some very personal about her on a trashy Internet website. While pretty decent, the story runs a little slow at times and a few parts seem unnecessary to the storyline. ([Click here](#) to check out other reviews for this title)

Title: Marley and Me

Classification: Biography

Author: John Grogan

Publisher: Harper

Copyright: 2005

Book Rating: 

Reviewer Comments: Marley is a light hearted, amusing tale with its share of chuckles along the way! Follow Marley's mishaps and adventures from his puppy days into adulthood. Every dog lover will relate! Be warned...this book is not for readers with a weak stomach! The author does not hold back on giving graphic details to the truly gross Marley behavior! ([Click here](#) to check out other reviews for this title)

Title: A Mercy

Classification: Fiction

Author: Toni Morrison

Publisher: Alfred A. Knopf

Copyright: 2008

Book Rating: 

Reviewer Comments: This story takes place back in the 1680's where slavery is common practice. Toni Morrison, the author of *Beloved*, writes a poignant story from the perspective of the main characters. It flips back and forth between the past and present. The slaves are saddened about the death of Sir who has been a very kind master to them. He has died of the pox and now Mistress has it. They have no surviving children and the three slave girls are scared if she should succumb to the pox. They take matters into their own hands and work to save their Mistress. The story is heartfelt and talks about the bonds of friendship.

December Reviews

Title: Cross Country

Classification: Fiction

Author: James Patterson

Publisher: Little Brown

Copyright: 2008

Book Rating: 

Reviewer Comments: Here is the latest in the Alex Cross series. I welcome this latest book with open arms as it re-ignited my interest in the series. The last book (Double Cross) was decent but it was a little predictable for me. This time Alex tracks a killer called 'the Tiger' all the way to Africa to search for him to. The Tiger killed Alex's old girlfriend and her family and he is on the case to bring justice. This change of scenery made for an interesting ride as we follow Alex around Africa as he searches for the Tiger.

Title: **The Ultimate Weight Solution**

Classification: Self Help

Author: Dr. Phil McGraw

Publisher: Pocket Books

Copyright: 2003

Book Rating: 

Reviewer Comments: It's that time of year again when people are thinking about their New Year's resolution. Weight loss seems to be one of the most popular resolutions with the people I know. As a professional dieter, I do read weight loss books. I finally came across one worth mentioning. Dr. Phil's book focuses on the Seven Keys to what he calls 'Weight Loss Freedom'. The keys are practical and insightful. My only complaint about this book is the condescending tone he writes it in. It is a tad too direct but if you can get past that, the information contained in the book is quite valuable.

Title: **The Heretic's Daughter**

Classification: Fiction

Author: Kathleen Kent

Publisher: Little, Brown & Co

Copyright: 2008

Book Rating: 

Reviewer Comments: When I first picked up this book, I was excited that the book was written about the author's distant relatives who lived during the time of the Salem Witch Trials. The premise of the book was based on old documents found that talked about that time. I was kinda disappointed. The story wasn't what I thought it would be. It dragged on in parts while other ares were good. If the book would have been written in diary form, I think it would be better. The author weaved a story based on information contained in the documents and I think the story could have been better. It's still worth a read if you want more information about the time period.

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