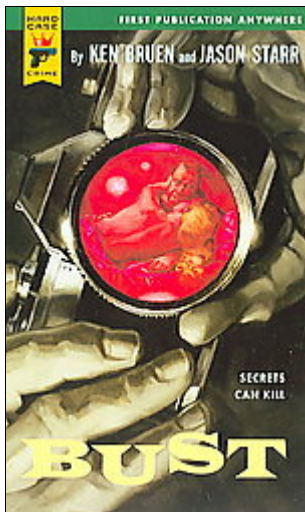


Staff Picks at the RTDL: April/May 2010



Bust by Ken Bruen and Jason Starr

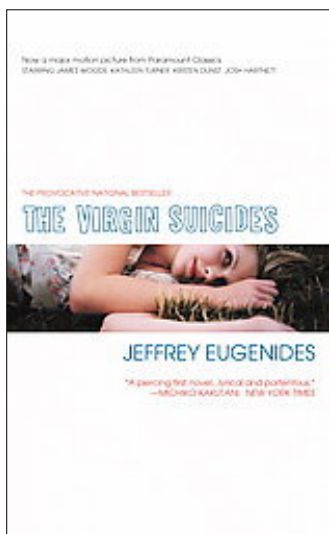
Max Fisher is a middle-aged putz: he decides to knock-off his wife so he can marry his secretary Angela Petrakos. The unscrupulous Angela introduces Max to a psychotic former IRA hit man named Dillon. Max is happy because he thinks he's found his murderer-for-hire. Angela and Dillon are happy because they're lovers and plan on double-crossing Max. And that's just the beginning of this fabulous, trashy, noir story from publisher Hard Case Crime. If you enjoy it, there are two more books in the Max and Angela saga, Slide and The Max.-Brooke

Esperanza by Esperanza Spalding

Esperanza plays acoustic bass and sings. I heard her interviewed on NPR just before this CD was released, and I bought it as soon as it was available. It's one of my favorites. Her sound is upbeat, soulful jazz with latin rhythms. She sings in English, Spanish and Portuguese on this CD. Esperanza was selected by President Obama to play when



he received the Nobel Peace Prize.-Linda



The Virgin Suicides by Jeffrey Eugenides

This story is set in Grosse Pointe in the 1970s and focuses on the Lisbon girls, five sisters who kill themselves within a year of each other. It is told by an anonymous narrator, a member of the group of adolescent boys that were obsessed with the girls in their youths, and are still fascinated and haunted by their story as middle-aged men. This is a lyrical, beautiful, and sad piece of literature, but well worth the emotional ride it evokes in

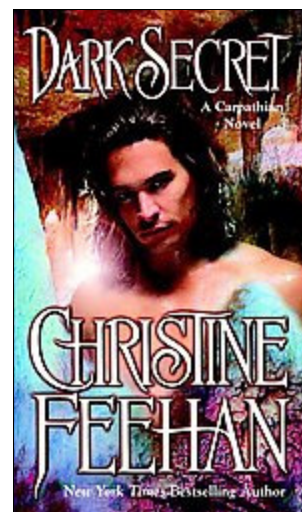
its reading. It was also adapted quite faithfully into a wonderful movie of the same name in 2000. The film was directed by Sofia Coppola and featured the performances of Kirsten Dunst, James Wood, Kathleen Turner and Josh Hartnett. It is set to a beautiful score created by the French band Air.-Kathryn

Staff Picks at the RTDL: April/May 2010

Dark Secret: A Carpathian Novel

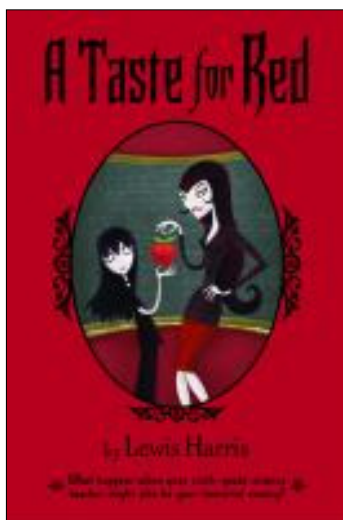
by Christine Feehan

This was definitely one of those “I read the book because of the cover reads” but once I actually got into it, I enjoyed the interaction between Colby and Rafael and the plethora of evil vampires.– Dom



A Taste for Red by Lewis Harris

A very entertaining first novel by Harris about a girl who is convinced she has become a vampire. She does not drink blood, but instead eats only foods that are red (or white, which is neutral in flavor). Upon entering public school for the first time, she is convinced that the new science teacher is also a vampire – but an evil one! Action and daring are the theme of this story as Svetlana (*not* Stephanie), takes matters of the missing local children into her own hands. Set up beautifully to become a series. –Kendra

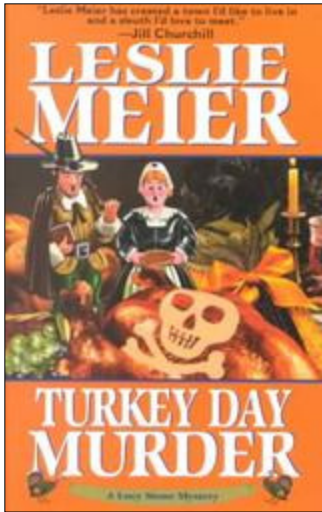


Save Big by Elisabeth Leamy

The title says it all; this book is about saving big money on some of life’s biggest expenses: house, car, credit, groceries, and health care. I found the information on home buying extremely useful, especially the parts on choosing the best mortgage in today’s economy, and how to challenge overinflated property taxes. The information presented is not about skimping and sacrificing, but on making wise choices and becoming a more educated consumer.–Christine



Staff Picks at the RTDL: April/May 2010

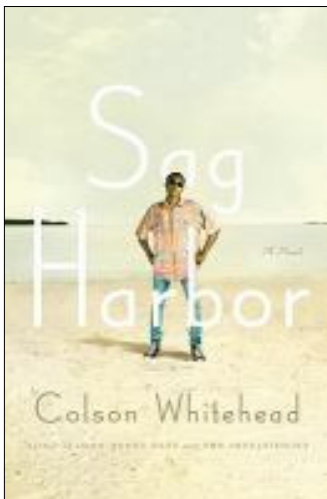
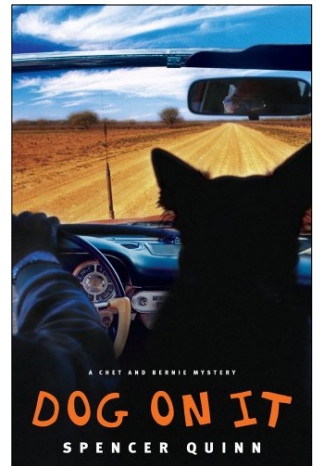


Lucy Stone Mysteries by Leslie Meier

Author Leslie Meier, and her murder mystery stories are a favorite of mine. Her books are named after holidays, Turkey Day Murder, Trick or Treat Murder, Mistletoe Murder, etc and are great fun to read. All of the books revolve around Lucy Stone and her case solving adventures. The books are full of humor, easy to read and greatly entertaining.-Nancy

Dog On It: A Chet and Bernie Mystery by Spencer Quinn

This is the first in a new mystery series featuring a dog as the narrator. If you like mysteries and dogs, then you will love this book. The dog, Chet, fills the mystery with humor and great insight into what dogs think about!-Carol



Sag Harbor by Colson Whitehead

The year is 1985 and Benji is 15 years old. He is spending the summer with his family in the Sag Harbor area of Long Island. Along with his younger brother Reggie, he has the house to himself during the week while his parents are working in the city. By turns hilarious and poignant, this coming of age story will appeal to anyone who remembers growing up in the mid '80s.-Dana