

WORDS: EMMA ROBERTS All books available at Asia Books.

## BETWEEN THE COVERS

### THE DEATH INSTINCT

BY JED RUBENFELD

At 12:01 p.m. on September 16, 1920, a blast in the Financial District of New York City killed 38 and seriously injured 143. The bomb was in a horse-drawn wagon parked across the street from the headquarters of the J.P. Morgan bank. The most deadly act of terrorism in the United States until the Oklahoma blast of 1995, it was never solved. This bombing provides the framework for Rubenfeld's latest book a follow-up to *The Interpretation of Murder*. The plot details the hunt for those responsible and numerous intriguing subplots add layers to the main story-line roping in historical figures like Marie Curie, and her radium experiments, and Sigmund Freud. Rubenfeld deftly wends his way through the shifting landscape with a historian's factual touch and a storyteller's eye for dramatic story-telling. Dr. Stratham Younger aided by his beautiful fiancée, scientist Colette Rousseau, and Detective James Littlemore manage to solve the Wall Street bombing, something that the real authorities never did.

### THE FAMILY

BY MARTINA COLE

This is Godfather revisited but in the Irish idiom. Phillip Murphy is a family man. He worships his old mum; he takes care of his siblings who help run his business empire; he dotes on his two young sons who will one day take over. And loves his wife and saviour Christine. To Phillip Murphy, family is everything and Christine has always understood this about her husband. But this is not a regular family. Murphy heads a mafia empire of sorts and killing is a part of daily life. Christine wants out, she can't stand the violence and the road it has taken her down, but she is trapped and scared as the Murphy motto is 'Once you're

in the family, you're in it for life.' An intriguing, spine-chilling thriller of a woman's struggle to escape.

### IN THE NAME OF HONOUR

BY RICHARD NORTH PATTERSON

The novel puts into focus 'post traumatic stress disorder', a problem military doctors have only recently started recognising. Soldiers coming back from active tours of duty are now being routinely diagnosed with it. This condition forms the basis of this story which features the McCarrans and the Gallaghers, two military families who have been close for decades, ever since Vietnam. Now a new generation of the family is fighting on a distant battlefield, and Lt. Brian McCarran, a distinguished general's son, has recently returned from a harrowing tour in Iraq. Traumatized by his war-time experiences, Brian depends on his life-long friendship with Kate Gallagher, who happens to be married to Brian's commanding officer in Iraq, Capt. Joe D'Abruzzo. But Kate is dealing with trauma of her own: since coming home, D'Abruzzo seems a changed man, and lately he's become paranoid and abusive. Tragedy strikes when Brian shoots and kills D'Abruzzo. Brian immediately confesses but claims self-defense - D'Abruzzo, a black-belt

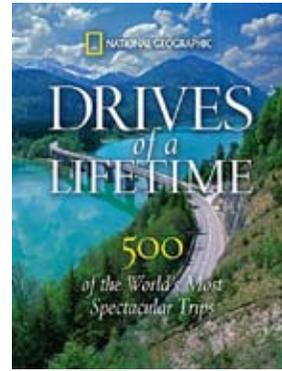
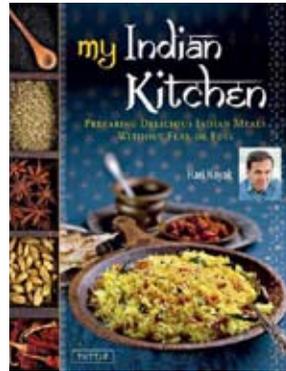
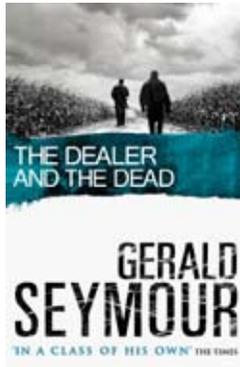
martial artist, came to his quarters, accused him of having an affair with Kate, and attacked him. Or so says Brian and now he faces a high-profile court martial.

### LUKA AND THE FIRE OF LIFE:

A NOVEL

BY SALMAN RUSHDIE

More than twenty years ago, when Salman Rushdie's older son Zafar asked him to write a book he could read, Rushdie penned *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*. And in his words 'I tried to fill it with light and even to give it a happy ending. Happy endings were things I had become very interested in at the time'. Then his younger son Milan read *Haroun* and insisted that a book be written for him too. The result is *Luka and the Fire of Life*. As Rushdie says it is not exactly a sequel to the earlier book, but a companion. The same family is at the heart of the book and in this one too a son must rescue a father. The story is about Luka, the son of Rashid Khalifa, a storyteller, and Soraya; older parents with a son already full grown when they had Luka, so Luka is a bit embarrassed. That his older brother Haroun already had an adventure of his own just puts pressure on Luka to find something that he could call his own. That Luka has two



interesting pets – a bear he calls Dog and a dog he calls Bear – that came from a dying circus only adds to Luka's internal frustration that he hasn't yet had adventures – and now that he's hitting puberty, he wants his own adventure.

### THE DEALER AND THE DEAD BY GERALD SEYMOUR

This all about the past catching up. In a Croatian village near Vukovar, no one who survived will ever forget the night they waited for the weapons they needed to make a last-ditch fight against the advancing Serbs. The delivery never came, and the village was overrun. Eighteen years later, a body is unearthed from a field, and with it the identity of the arms dealer who betrayed them. The villagers plot their revenge on arms dealer Harvey Gillott who lives in England and thinks of himself as a man of his word. A contract killer is hired to exact revenge and soon Gillott and his family (and the British police who are charged with stopping contract killings) are pitched into a sequence of events that will unfold across Europe with breath-taking drama.

### MY INDIAN KITCHEN: PREPARING DELICIOUS INDIAN MEALS WITHOUT FEAR OR FUSS BY HARI NAYAK AND JACK TURKEL

Hari Nayak is more than a chef, he is a restaurateur, author as well as a culinary consultant in North America. And in *My Indian Kitchen*, Hari Nayak shares the secrets of his family's style of southern Indian cooking as well as favourite dishes from other parts of the Indian subcontinent – secrets that he learned from his mother and aunts, neighbours, local street vendors and friends. Wonderful recipes and simple tips that will allow even the novice to succeed at unlocking the magic of Indian cooking. From a Mint Chutney with Samosa to Chicken Tikka Masala, to Pork Vindaloo, Tandoori Chicken and Sweet Mango Yogurt Lassi, the book has all the regulars with simplified recipes. All without sacrificing any of their authenticity.

### DRIVES OF A LIFETIME: 500 OF THE WORLD'S MOST SPECTACULAR TRIPS BY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

This lavishly illustrated, hardcover travel planner is the perfect gift for a person addicted to road trips. Let's face it, not everyone can go on a road trip no matter how luxurious and comfortable the ride. It takes a certain mind set. And if you have that mind-set this book is for you as it has all the information you'll need to navigate 400 amazing routes in some of the world's most fascinating locales. Besides a clear, detailed, easy-to-read map of each route, there is also specific, in-depth descriptions of the sights each drive offers. Plus useful information on the best time to travel as well as tips to help you make the most of your adventure and get the most out of every trip. Sample entries include the road to the spectacular ancient ruins in and around Angkor Wat in Siam Reap; the scenic old coastal route from Dublin to Wexford in Ireland; an off-road dune drive in Dubai; the famous ocean views along the Cabot Trail in Nova Scotia, Canada; the Winelands Route through South Africa's Western Cape; a drive among the incredible land formations in South Dakota's Badlands; and an archaeological tour through Syria (though you may have to wait a while for that adventure). The chapters are organised by themes: Ultimate Road Trips; Over Hill and Mountains; By Sea and Shore; The Road Less Travelled; Village Byways and Historic Trails.

### NEW JAPAN ARCHITECTURE: RECENT WORKS BY THE WORLD'S LEADING ARCHITECTS BY GEETA MEHTA, DEANNA MACDONALD, CESAR PELLI AND FUMIHIKO MAKI

The book documents the past five years considered one of the most innovative periods in Japanese design history. Observed by architects and designers from around the world, these changes are highlighted by documenting 48 important projects undertaken by 42 established and avant-garde architects. The book takes the reader through a journey of current trends and predicts future directions. While some buildings strive for the ultimate Zen, others exemplify cutting edge modernity. The selection includes projects that are big and small, private and public, residential and commercial. A must-have book for those interested in architecture and Japan. ■