

## **September 22**

*Nine Elms* (Kate Marshall #1) by Robert Bryndza

"A compelling read with an intricate plot, a strong setting, and characters so real they are almost live human beings."—*New York Journal of Books*

## **October 27**

*Lies With Man* (Henry Rios Mystery Series #8) by Michael Nava

"This realistic, gritty mystery set during the AIDS crisis is an eye-opener." —*Publishers Weekly*

## **November 17**

*The Cipher* by Isabella Maldonado (Nina Guerrero #1)

"Maldonado expertly ratchets up the tension as the pieces of the puzzle neatly fall into place. Suspense fans will be enthralled from the very first page." —*Publishers Weekly*

## **December 15**

*By Way of Sorrow* (An Erin McCabe Legal Thriller #1) by Robyn Gigl

Gigl is too astute and compassionate a writer to create cartoon villainy out of anti-trans attitudes...quietly groundbreaking." —*The New York Times Book Review*

## **January 26**

*When No One is Watching* by Alyssa Cole

"This outstanding thriller... builds to a credible finale. This stellar and unflinching look at racism and greed will have readers hooked till the end." -- *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

## **February 23**

*Firewatching* (Detective Sergeant Adam Tyler #1) by Russ Thomas

"The richness of Tyler's character and the vividness of his negotiation of his own sexuality and the casual bigotry in his community are effective. ...This is a rewarding entertainment. A good detective in an incendiary procedural."—Kirkus Reviews

## **March 23**

*Blacktop Wasteland* by S. A. Cosby

Unforgettable...Cosby never takes his foot off the accelerator. He's a natural storyteller and a nimble writer. And Cosby works the magic performed by only the best noir scribes: somehow he gets readers to root for the protagonist as he commits a crime."—*Shelf Awareness*, (starred review)

**April 27**

*At the End of the World, Turn Left* by Zhanna Slor

"This wonderful debut is a match for patrons who enjoyed Zadie Smith's *White Teeth* or Rachel Zhong's *Goodbye, Vitamin*. It's also a must for anyone who has ever had a needy Grandma who anticipates death every morning (this character alone is worth the read)." —*Booklist* (starred review)

**May 25**

*These Toxic Things* by Rachel Howzell Hall

"This cleverly plotted, surprise-filled novel offers well-drawn and original characters, lively dialogue, and a refreshing take on the serial killer theme. Hall continues to impress." —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

**June 22**

*Dead of Winter* (An August Snow Novel #3) by Stephen Mack Jones

"What a difference an interval marked by civil unrest, an ongoing pandemic and growing income inequality makes: P.I. fiction has never seemed more relevant, and Snow's third outing...stands out among the crowded pack." —*Sarah Weinman, The New York Times Book Review*