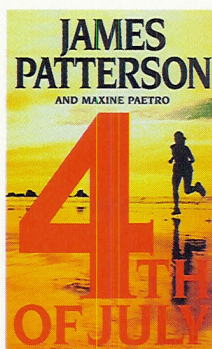


Hardcover Bestsellers/**Fiction**

By DAISY MARYLES



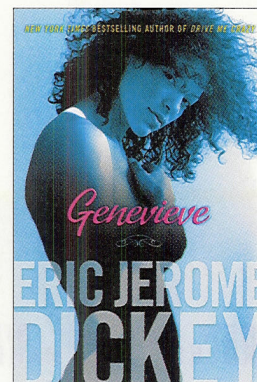
4th of July is the first Patterson book co-authored by Maxine Paetro. Out of the gate, it's racked up higher first-week sales than any previous Women's Murder Club novel.

Variety.com predicts that *Star Wars: Episode III—Revenge of the Sith* will set new records, based on the \$16.5 million gross for the first showings after midnight last Thursday. That number is nearly three times the \$6.2 million that 2002's *Attack of the Clones* clocked in its first late-night shows. Let's hope lots of those fans buy the 650,000 copies Del Rey has printed of the *Sith* book.

Frank is in the middle of a four-week tour for her new hardcover; 167,600 copies in print, according to her publisher.

May 23, 2005		Last week	Weeks on list
1	4th of July. James Patterson and Maxine Paetro. Little, Brown, \$27.95 ISBN 0-316-71060-1	1	2
2	Broken Prey. John Sandford. Putnam, \$26.95 ISBN 0-399-15272-5	—	1
3	True Believer. Nicholas Sparks. Warner, \$24.95 ISBN 0-446-53243-6	2	5
4	The Mermaid Chair. Sue Monk Kidd. Viking, \$24.95 ISBN 0-670-03394-4	3	6
5	The Da Vinci Code. Dan Brown. Doubleday, \$24.95 ISBN 0-385-50420-9	4	111
6	Star Wars Revenge of the Sith. Matthew Stover. Del Rey/LucasBooks, \$25.95 ISBN 0-345-42883-8	7	7
7	Countdown. Iris Johansen. Bantam, \$25 ISBN 0-553-80342-5	—	1
8	Haunted. Chuck Palahniuk. Doubleday, \$24.95 ISBN 0-385-50948-0	9	2
9	In the Company of Cheerful Ladies. Alexander McCall Smith. Pantheon, \$19.95 ISBN 0-375-42271-4	6	4
10	The Innocent. Harlan Coben. Dutton, \$26.95 ISBN 0-525-94874-0	8	3
11	Genevieve. Eric Jerome Dickey. Dutton, \$24.95 ISBN 0-525-94878-3	—	1
12	The Five People You Meet in Heaven. Mitch Albom. Hyperion, \$19.95 ISBN 0-7868-6871-6	11	84
13	No Place Like Home. Mary Higgins Clark. Simon & Schuster, \$25.95 ISBN 0-7432-6489-4	5	6
14	Pawleys Island. Dorothea Benton Frank. Berkley, \$24.95 ISBN 0-425-20271-2	12	2
15	Gilead. Marilynne Robinson. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$23 ISBN 0-374-15389-2	15	5

Promotion for *Countdown* (290,000 copies in print) includes a "Put a Face to the Crime" videogame, which tests a player's memory as s/he helps a forensic artist piece together a sketch of a man seen at the crime. The game is being cross-sold on POS materials (risers) and print ads.



At his first signing, in Raleigh, N.C., Dickey helped a fan propose to his girlfriend, bringing the audience to tears. At the next signing, in D.C., the White House and Capitol were evacuated; folks who were kicked out of their offices stopped at B. Dalton in Union Station to attend his signing. On the way to his third signing, in Philadelphia, Dickey's train broke down... twice. Still, fans came out in droves.

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