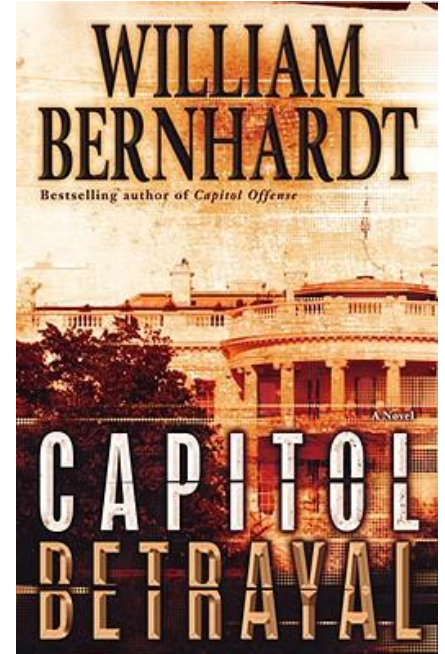


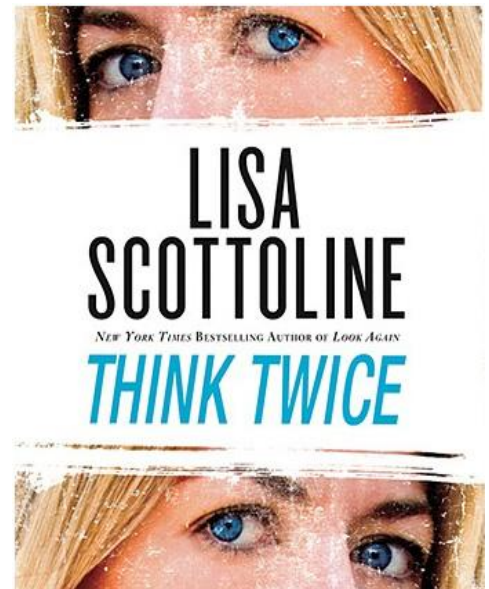
**“Capitol Betrayal” by William Bernhardt
Ballantine Books, 2010. \$26.00, 338 pages.**

Popular character Ben Kincaid is back in Bernhardt’s latest novel and he is smack in the middle of a political crisis. While he is in the White House meeting with President Kyler, a high level threat forces evacuation to the PEOC, the Presidential Emergency Operations Center. A nuclear suitcase has been stolen from a top-secret armory in Arlington and control of guidance systems has been lost. The president seems somewhat befuddled. A foreign dictator is pulling the strings and the implication is clear. America is being held hostage as a designated nuclear target if the dictator’s demands are not met. The first theater ballistic missile explodes underwater in the Potomac. Communications was disrupted by the EMP-electromagnetic pulse. Field agent Seamus McKay is tracking down leads and has engaged a team of terrorists at the Washington Monument. Outnumbered and without a weapon, he asks tourists in an elevator to empty their pocketbooks. He takes on the heavily armed team with his military fighting skills and a can of hairspray, a Bic lighter, a rubber band and a rat-tailed comb. I can see this as an action movie starring Bruce Willis or Vin Diesel. It is a well written thriller that keeps your adrenalin pumping from start to finish.



**“Think Twice” by Lisa Scottoline
St. Martin’s Press, 2010. \$26.99, 372 pages.**

Scottoline’s new book is sure to please her fans. What if you found out you had an evil twin you did not know about until you were an adult? Bennie Rosato has the perfect life, satisfying career, and a boyfriend. Bennie did not even know she had a twin until Alice Connelly called saying she needed a lawyer. She is accused of murder. Bennie proved she was not guilty. Presently, Alice has just quit her entry level job and tells her sister to hire her at Rosato & Associates law firm. What begins as a quiet get together dinner at what she believes to be Alice’s place turns into a nightmare as Bennie wakes up in a wooden box. She had been drinking wine when her head started to spin and she blacked out. Alice has a foolproof plan to take all of Bennie’s wealth and the plan is working fantastically until she unlocks the door to Bennie’s rowhouse and the dog starts growling. Meanwhile Bennie is desperately trying to escape the box wondering why her life is suddenly so out of her control. She should have trusted her first instinct, namely, not to trust Alice. This suspenseful novel explores human nature, familial bonds and deep seated revenge. This good twin-bad twin concept has been explored by other writers such as Gary Troup and Richard Aellen. Check out this thriller and you will have a sleepless night staying up to finish it.



Susan Benning is the Head Librarian at May Memorial Library. Visit us online at www.alamancelibraries.org.