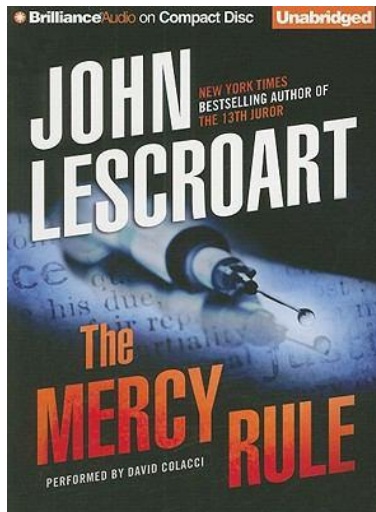


Playaway Audiobooks are a new format of enjoying a book. Unlike books on cd which often have 12 discs, playaways are about the size of a credit card and contain one digitally recorded book. These self contained books are perfect for your pocket and will require one AAA battery and a set of earbuds to operate. They are very portable and easy to use while walking, exercising or driving on a long trip. Don't get too engrossed in the story or you might miss your exit on the highway. The advantage of a Playaway over a book on cd is that there are no discs to change and it restarts wherever you stopped listening. If you type in playaways on the card catalog under keyword, the list of titles available will come up on the computer. You can place a reserve in person, on the phone or on the computer from home with your library card number and PIN.



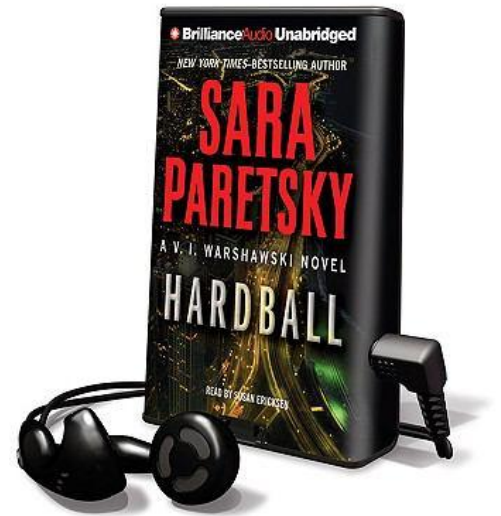
“The Mercy Rule” by John Lescroart. 2010, Playaway. Unabridged, 18 hours run time.

Fans of Lescroart will be happy to have character Dimas Hardy back to handle another challenging case. Just when Dismas thought he could take some vacation time with his family, he is asked to represent Graham Russo, a lawyer accused of murdering Sal, his terminally ill father. There is proof Graham regularly administered morphine for his dying father's pain. Graham insists the night his father died of an overdose, he was not present. The suspense created by the author makes you want to keep listening even when you pull in the driveway at home. Luckily, you can restart where you left off after the supper chores are finished to hear more of this fast-paced story.

“Hardball” by Sara Paretsky. Playaway 2010. \$55.00, 15 hours run time.

Vic Warshawski is back on the streets of Chicago using her skills as a private investigator. This time she is hired by a hospital chaplain to find Lamont Gadsden, a man who has been missing almost forty years. Lamont had been part of Martin Luther King's protective guard during the summer of 1966. Petra, a distant cousin, comes to town to work on a Senatorial campaign and to complicate matters she is taken from Vic's office. As Vic tracks down clues, she discovers her most valuable witness has been killed and someone is trying to kill her as well.

The investigation leads her to investigate her father's actions while he was a police officer. There is complex layering of the story lines in this novel which are skillfully interlaced. Paretsky's novels are hard to put down because of the twists, turns and non-stop action. Listening to this story on a Playaway might make you forget the daily housecleaning, laundry or waiting in the carpool line.



Susan Benning is the Head Librarian at May Memorial Library. Visit us on the web at www.alamancelibraries.org. For more information, please call 229-3588.