

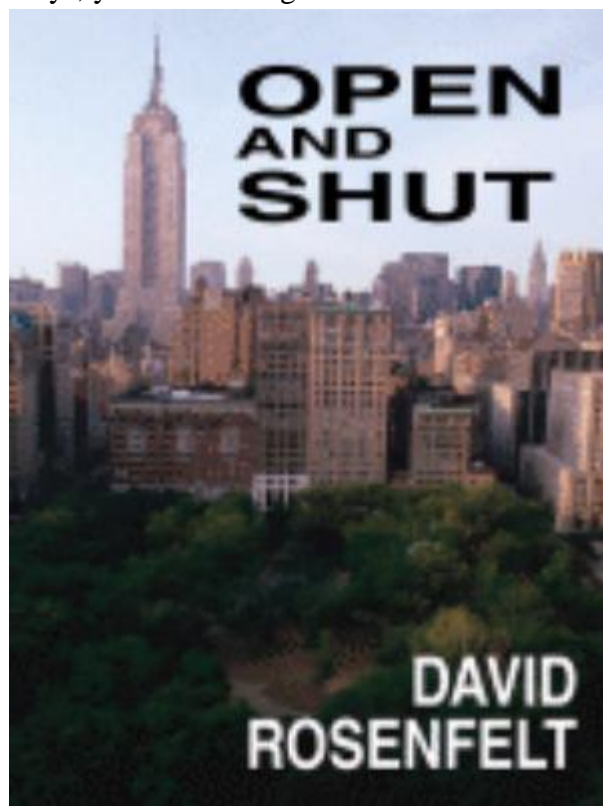
“Sixth Man” by David Baldacci. Grand Central Publishing, 2011. \$27.99. 416 pages.

Baldacci is back to the delight of his fans with favorite characters Sean King and Michelle Maxwell. “Sixth Man” is the fifth novel in this series. Their newest case involves national security and the investigative duo is racing against time. Edgar Roy, in jail on charges of being a serial killer, is awaiting trial. He was found in a barn near six buried remains. Roy’s lawyer, Ted Bergin, called in the pair to help with the case in Portland, Maine. The mystery opens with a wallop as they find the attorney dead with a single gunshot to the head when they arrive for the appointment. Ted’s wallet and watch are on his dead body so robbery was not the motive. Sean is determined to unravel all of the questions. Is Edgar Roy guilty? Who killed his friend Ted? The answers to these inquiries place the two in grave danger from the highest levels of governmental power. The writing is crisp and the momentum never slows in this novel.

The other books in this series are “Split Second,” “Hour Game”, “Simple Genius”, and “First Family.”

“Open and Shut” by David Rosenfelt. Audio Playaway 2010. \$44.00 7 hours.

If you are a passenger on a road trip and have not tried the Playaways, you are missing out. I listened to “Open and Shut” on a recent vacation and what a delight. The trip did not seem as long and upon arrival at the destination, I wanted to keep listening to finish the story. Legal thrillers are a popular genre and Rosenfelt does not disappoint in his debut novel now available as a Playaway audio book. The story is read by a seasoned performer who captures the essence of the characters’ personalities . Andy Carpenter, a likeable lawyer, takes on a death row client and the case becomes very complex when he learns his late father, Nelson, might have had an involvement in the events following the death of a young lady. When his dad dies unexpectedly, he learns about his inheritance.....22 million dollars! Since the family had always led a modest lifestyle, Andy is perplexed. Embroiled in the possible implications, he doggedly pursues the truth no matter where it leads. His estranged wife tries to reconcile when she finds out about the bequest. You will read the rest of his series after this novel. Playaways are the size of a credit card and require one AAA battery and ear buds. Instructions are on the case and the audio book conveniently picks up from the place you stopped listening.



Susan Benning is the Head Librarian at May Memorial Library. Please call us to sign up for a computer class at 229-3588. Visit us on the web at www.alamancelibraries.org for upcoming programs.