FROM NOVELS OF SECRET AGENTS ON the run to adventurers searching for ancient lost cities to killers stalking their prey, tightly plotted and quickly paced Adrenaline stories generate tense atmospheres that will keep you up all night turning pages, intent on finding out what happens next—and to whom, uncaring of how bleary-eyed you will be in the morning.
Alan Furst’s gripping spy novels snare readers with their mix of detailed historical settings and complex characters. His fast pace keeps readers turning pages while his clever plots and atmospheric settings provide plenty to sink into. A Hero of France in his long-running Night Soldiers series offers an insider’s look at the power plays and tangled action of events leading up to World War II and the war itself, mixed with compelling action and rich characterization.

Publishing phenomenon James Patterson works with teams of writers and publishes one hit after another for readers of all ages. Patterson is known for his intense pacing, edgy tone, and plot-centered novels that immediately grip readers and keep them frantically turning pages. His most famous creation is the detective Alex Cross, an African-American psychologist and Washington, DC, police detective. Start with the first in that Suspense series, Along Came a Spider.

Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child write together and separately. As a team they are best known for their series featuring Aloysius Pendergast, a special investigator in the FBI. Separately, Preston writes novels that blend Spy and Techno-thriller Adventure, while Child writes science-filled Suspense-Thrillers. Regardless of their authorial combinations, their detailed, well-set, and strongly atmospheric books are notable for their fast action and twists. Start with Relic, the first Pendergast novel.

Daniel Silva writes Spy Thrillers, novels full of art, family, and plenty of politics. Unlike some loner spies, his hero Gabriel Allon is bound by his relationships with family and the agents with whom he has worked for years. Those connections enrich the novels, as does Allon’s sideline work as an art restorer of rare masterpieces. Fast-paced and addictive, the series has devoted fans and critical admirers. The Kill Artist is the first.

Karin Slaughter writes a popular mix of Thriller/Suspense novels, both stand-alone and best-selling series. She is known for her blend of graphic violence, complicated and layered plots, ratcheting tension, and the ongoing development of a tight-knit cast of series characters. She dependably provides a sense of menace, a layer of grit, and gruesome violence, along with page-turner pacing. Start with series-starters Blindsighted or Triptych, or with Cop Town, an award-winning stand-alone.
MEMORY MAN
David Baldacci
David Baldacci's newest series, the Memory Man novels, features Amos Decker, a former police officer with hyperthymesia—a condition that ensures he remembers everything. The first, Memory Man, charts Decker's search to find a murderer in this relentlessly paced Thriller with myriad plot twists and a dark and suspenseful tone.

KILLING FLOOR
Lee Child
Lee Child gained fame for creating series character Jack Reacher, who combines the skill and competency of James Bond with the moral compass of the Western hero ambling into town just in time to save the day. Killing Floor starts the Reacher series, one that grows darker and grittier as it advances.

SANDSTORM
James Rollins
James Rollins's entertaining, addictively readable Adventure novels feature exotic locales, rocket fast pacing, skilled characters, and over-the-top plots. Sandstorm introduces the Sigma Force titles featuring an elite special operations team who solve baffling puzzles that range from the scientific to the arcane, with the fate of the world often at stake.

RULES OF PREY
John Sandford
John Sandford writes multiple Suspense series that grab readers by the throat. The Prey books, starting with Rules of Prey, feature Minneapolis detective Lucas Davenport, who uses his keen deductive skills to fight corruption and to nab serial killers before they kill again. Elegant writing, strong characterizations, and fast-paced suspense define the series.

THE INFORMATIONIST
Taylor Stevens
Taylor Stevens writes the Vanessa Michael Munroe series, books set around the globe with killing expert and information specialist Munroe taking on all comers. The Informationist introduces this dangerous heroine who uses all her skills to find the missing daughter of an oilman in a gritty, violent, and compelling page-turner.
GENRE JUMPS

JUMP TO . . . PSYCHOLOGICAL SUSPENSE

*Behind Her Eyes* by Sarah Pinborough

A trio of unlikable characters form a lover’s triangle and readers learn of subsequent and earlier events from three points of view. Whom can we trust? With a menacing tone established from the first, the story spins out to its disturbing denouement.

JUMP TO . . . HORROR

*Ararat* by Christopher Golden

An expedition to uncover what might be the remains of Noah’s Ark has all the elements Adrenaline readers crave: a fast pace, building suspense, a violent action-oriented plot, an ominous tone, vivid characterizations, plus a detailed setting with a touch of the supernatural.

JUMP TO . . . FANTASY

*His Majesty’s Dragon*, first in the Temeraire series by Naomi Novik

It’s pure Adventure set during an alternate history Napoleonic Wars with sentient dragons forming an important fighting force for all sides. Action drives the entire series, which delivers military strategy and battles, vivid characterizations, and a richly detailed world.

JUMP TO . . . SCIENCE FICTION

*Dark Matter* by Blake Crouch

A cinematic time travel tale in which an academic is kidnapped—and taken to another world. His only goal is to get back home. Moving at a breakneck pace, the novel features adventure and survival, choices and possibilities, and a lot of heart.

JUMP TO . . . ROMANTIC SUSPENSE

*The Forbidden Rose* by Joanna Bourne

A compulsively readable tale of spies, adventure, romance, and sparkling wit. This and others in her Spymasters series center on Britain’s chief spies and combine an intriguing historical setting with danger and adventure, as pairs of lovers discover secrets and expose traitors during the French Revolution.