

**NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR MARY BURTON "DELIVERS ACTION-PACKED TENSION"*
IN THE SEVENTH VICTIM, THE STORY OF A COLD CASE GONE HOT WHEN A
SERIAL STRANGLER EMERGES FROM THE SHADOWS TO KILL AGAIN**

**Burton's Latest Suspense Novel is Published by Zebra Books as a
Mass Market Paperback Original on Sale January 29th**

"Burton (*Before She Dies*) delivers action-packed tension...the blooming love interest between Beck and Lara, the number of red-herring suspects, and the back story on the victims make this a compelling romantic thriller."

—*Publishers Weekly*

"Dark and disturbing, a well-written tale of obsession and murder."

—*Kat Martin, New York Times bestselling author*

"Gritty, provocative...the dialogue is crisp and intense...an intricate plot...
a chilling, thought-provoking page-turner ."

—*Happily Ever After, USA Today on Before She Dies*

"Burton just keeps getting better!...gripping...the romance is touching and the characters are flawed and wonderful."

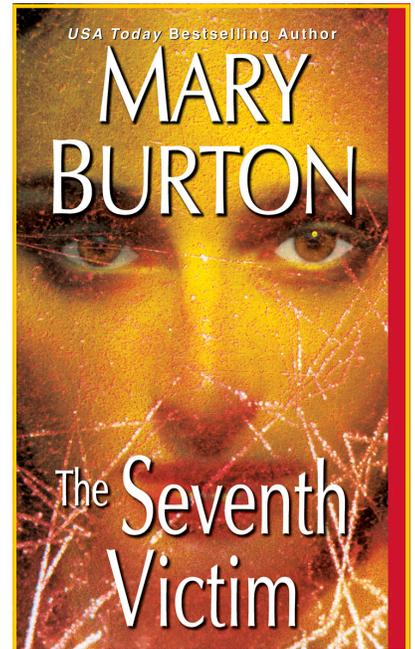
—*RT Book Reviews on Merciless*

"Steig Larsson fans will find a lot to like in Burton's taut, well-paced novel...Burton (*Dead Ringer*) surrounds her appealing protagonist with a strong supporting cast."

—*Publishers Weekly on Senseless*

"With hard-edged, imperfect but memorable characters, a complex plot, and no-nonsense dialog, this excellent novel will appeal to fans of Lisa Gardner and Lisa Jackson."

—*Library Journal on Senseless*



New York Times and USA Today bestselling author Mary Burton casts aside her Virginia roots and moves the action of her latest novel west, where the Austin-based Texas Rangers are confronted with multiple murders in **THE**

SEVENTH VICTIM.

James Beck has just returned to Ranger Division Headquarters after three weeks on administrative leave with no regrets about angering the higher ups or disobeying orders by pursuing the politically well-connected bigwig he was certain was the killer of ten-year-old Misty Gray. Today, he's facing murder again, this time a killing seemingly linked to one in San Antonio. Both involved young, blonde women found dead and wearing white dresses. When a penny is discovered in the hand of the new victim, alarms go off for Beck as he recalls a case of serial murders in Seattle that was never solved. Six women were strangled. All were blonde and found wearing white dresses, and each held a penny in her hand. The seventh victim survived.



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Fear kept Lara Church moving from town to town for the last seven years, until eight months ago when her grandmother died. Lara inherited the home and land just outside of Austin where she had spent all of her childhood summers. The house had been a place of refuge for Lara and, though she had planned to settle the estate and leave, she remained, setting up her dark room, diving deeper into her art and accepting a job teaching photography. Comforting memories help hold her there, but those are not the ones that matter to her.

She wants what she can't remember--being raped, beaten and strangled, her attacker, and the clues that could lead to the Seattle Strangler. Two months after the attack, Lara, whose name was never released, dyed her blonde hair brown, packed her bags and left Seattle forever, hoping to protect her identity and escape the constant pressure to remember.

Lara's only just begun to believe that she may be able to stay in one place, that she may have a chance at a normal life, when Beck shows up demanding her help. But she's already tried to remember, over and over again, to no avail. There's no way she's going to let Beck drag her back to hell, back into the world of shrinks and crime scene photos that had nearly driven her insane.

Yet, as the killing continues, a mother's plea pulls Lara into the heart of the investigation, struggling to remember and to face the terror, even as her home and life are invaded. Threats mount, the killer draws closer, and nothing and no one is what they seem to be.

*Publishers Weekly

ABOUT MARY BURTON

New York Times and USA Today bestselling novelist Mary Burton is the author of nineteen novels including her latest thriller, **THE SEVENTH VICTIM**. Her highly praised books include **Before She Dies**, **Senseless**, **Merciless**, **Dying Scream**, **Dead Ringer** and **I'm Watching You**.

A Richmond native whose family's roots run as deep as the nation's, Mary still lives there. She attended Virginia's Hollins University and began a career in marketing. Eventually, she decided the stories buzzing around her brain really did deserve her attention. She left her job and wrote her first novel, a historical romance published in 2000.

Mary wrote eleven more romance novels and three novellas before embracing the dark world of suspense. She even brought danger to her novella ***Christmas Past***, which appears in the New York Times bestselling holiday anthology **Silver Bells**. Her story, ***Snow Maiden***, was featured in the USA Today bestselling collection **A Hero's Kiss**.

Research led her to both the Henrico County Citizens Police Academy and the Richmond FBI Citizen's Academy as well as Sisters in Crime's Forensic University program and the Writers Police Academy in Jamestown, North Carolina, where the focus was on undercover work, autopsies, and the theories behind why people kill.

Mary writes full time. When not killing people, she spends time in the kitchen, practices yoga, enjoys her family and her miniature dachshunds, and completes courses toward her Baking & Pastry Arts Certificate at the University of Richmond's Culinary Arts Program. She has just completed her next novel, **NO ESCAPE**, which will be published in November 2013.

www.maryburton.com <http://www.facebook.com/maryburtonfanpage> www.kensingtonbooks.com

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