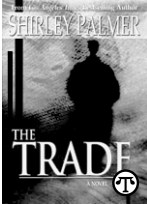


Adventures in Reading

Corrupt, Dangerous World

(NAPSA)—A gripping thriller about a truly heinous evil. That's what readers are calling *The Trade* (MIRA Books, \$23.95), the new novel by critically acclaimed author Shirley Palmer.

Matt Lowell never set out to be a hero, but he wasn't given a choice.



As a vicious wildfire rages in the canyons around Malibu, Matt races along the edge of the surf in a desperate attempt to reach his house and save his beloved dog, Barney. But as he runs, he stumbles upon a horror that stops him in his tracks: a newborn baby abandoned in the sand. And before he can get her to safety, the baby dies in his arms.

The already horrific event is made even more appalling when the police find the baby's teenage mother dead on the side of the canyon road, her body covered with wildflowers. Matt can't ignore the unexpected sense of duty he feels toward these innocent victims. After meeting a group of the teenage girl's friends, he decides to get involved—setting in motion irreversible consequences...and leading him into the midst of an unspeakable crime ring of slavery and murder.

Shirley Palmer, a *Los Angeles Times* bestseller, won over readers and critics alike with her hardcover-debut thriller *Danger Zone*, which Kirkus Reviews declared, "First rate...Admirably paced and plotted, with the kind of guns-a-popping denouement that begs for transfer to the big screen."

The Trade is available at bookstores and at www.mirabooks.com.