

***The House of Wolves* by James Patterson & Mike Lupica**

This is an intense suspense novel set in the world of money and high-stakes NFL team ownership. Joe Wolf, the patriarch of the Wolf empire, is found dead. The suspects are numerous – including all four of his children who all hated the man at some level. Then there are also two ex-wives and numerous business associates. The detective on the case – Ben Cantor – has all of them under the microscope.

At the reading of the will, the sole daughter – Jenny – ends up inheriting the chairmanship of the board and full control of the NFL team as well as their family newspaper. Her brothers are not happy and knives are out for Jenny. The family motto, of course, is “Kill or Be Killed.” Jenny never wanted any of this – she had turned her back on her father years ago, became a high school teacher and coach of the high school football team. Suddenly, she is thrust back into her father’s world and determined to correct the downward spiral of the NFL team, continue coaching her high school team, and stand up to her brothers and others who want her out of their way.

This is a fascinating read – even if you are not too into football. Jenny is an interesting character – very tough and very passionate about football. There is a minor side-line romance between Jenny and the detective. The library has this book both in print and on audio cd. If you check out the audio cd, there is a bonus prequel story of the last few days of Joe’s life when he started to realize he was in trouble. A good read.