

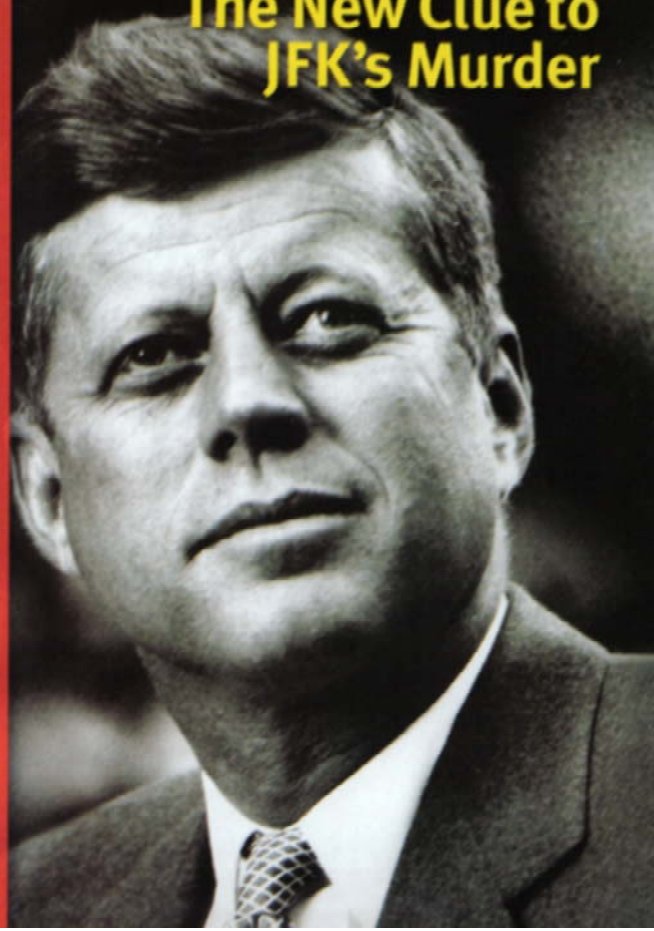


Halle Berry
'I'm on this earth to help other people'

Got Back Pain? New Cures

Reader's Digest

The New Clue to JFK's Murder



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Best Way to Beat Stress



March
2005
\$2.99
rd.com

RDTECHNOLOGY

Cool Tools to Make Spring Cleaning Fun

TIME FOR that annual spring ritual: house-cleaning. To make it a breeze, Laura Dellutri of healthyhousekeeper.com suggests trying some of her favorite gadgets:

Backpack vacuum Most vacuum cleaners are clunky and heavy to carry. Dellutri uses the ProTeam VX2000 (above right), a nine-pound backpack model with a 35-foot power cord, rug/floor tool and microfilter. "Best part is it's easy to take upstairs," Dellutri adds (proteamvac.com; \$499).

Flexible duster Get to hard-to-reach zones atop refrigerators and



between cabinets with the Total-Reach Duster (www.ungerglobal.com; \$9.95). The flexible paddle (below left) is 31 1/2" long and 5 1/4" wide, so it can fit into tight spaces.

Swivel mop The Vileda Ultra Max flat mop has thin replaceable pads and rotates 360° to get under kitchen cabinets and around table legs. Its bucket has a built-in wringer so your hands never get wet or touch detergents. "I've even used it to clean paneled walls," Dellutri says (rollomatic.com, \$21.99).

Flushable toilet brush Fresh Brush has biodegradable pads that you can flush after use (scrubbingbubbles.com; \$4.99). M.M.

CELL BATTERY TIP

Juiceless cell-phone batteries often have more zip than you think. Before spending \$20 or more to replace one, try pushing the charger firmly into the socket—or plug it into another power source. Many L-shaped chargers seesaw and become dislodged, especially on power strips, fooling you into thinking phones are recharging when they're really off the hook.

Let eBay Find It

TIRE D OF SEARCHING eBay each day to see if that Beatles LP you want is up for auction? Have the site e-mail you instead. Set up a free "My eBay" home page. Then type the item you want into the search box and click "search." Next, click "add to favorites," check the "e-mail me daily" box and click "save search." Now, when *Rubber Soul* is for sale, you'll get the word.