

Mystery Fiction



Animals

In these novels, the reader will find animals and humans working together to solve mysteries.

Author

Series title or Character name

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Adamson, Lydia | Deirdre Quinn Nightingale |
| Adamson, Lydia | Alice Nestleton |
| Babson, Marian | Trixie & Evangeline |
| Berenson, Laurien | Melanie Travis |
| Block, Barbara | Robin Light |
| Braun, Lilian Jackson | Jim Qwilleran & Koko & Yum-Yum |
| Brown, Rita Mae | Harry Haristeen & Mrs. Murphy |
| Conant, Susan | Holly Winter |
| Crum, Laura | Gail McCarthy |
| Douglas, Carole Nelson | Temple Barr & Midnight Louie |
| Francis, Dick | |
| Lanier, Virginia | Jo Beth Sidden |
| Marshall, Evan | Jane Stuart & Winky |
| Murphy, Shirley Rousseau | Joe Grey |

Cincinnati Mysteries

The city of Cincinnati is the background for these stories of sleuthing.

Author

Series title or Character name

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| DeBrosse, Jim | Rick Decker |
| Hightower, Lynn | Sonora Blair |
| Holden, Craig | "The Jazz Bird" |
| John, Cathie | Kate Cavanaugh |
| Pyle, A. M. | Cesar Franck |
| Short, Sharon Gwyn | Patricia Delaney |
| Valin, Jonathan | Harry Stoner |



Culinary

In culinary mysteries, the main character's primary employment involves food. The stories often involve cooking, and many include recipes.

Author

Series title or Character name

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Bishop, Claudia | Meg & Sarah Quilliam |
| Bond, Michael | Monsieur Pamplemousse & Pommes Frites |
| Davidson, Diane Mott | Goldy Bear |
| Fairbanks, Nancy | Carolyn Blue |
| Fluke, Joanne | Hannah Swensen |
| King, Peter | The Gourmet Detective |
| McKevett, G. A. | Savannah Reid |
| Myers, Tamar | Magdalena Yoder |
| Page, Katherine Hall | Faith Fairchild |
| Pickard, Nancy / Virginia Rich | Eugenia Potter |
| Richman, Phyllis | Chas Wheatley |
| Temple, Lou Jane | Heaven Lee |

HARD-BOILED / NOIR

The typical setting of a hard-boiled novel is the harsh streets of a big city. The language and the environment are violent and raw. The detective must be tough, and sometimes must resort to breaking the law himself to see that justice gets served.

Author

Series title or Character name

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Cain, James M. | |
| Chandler, Raymond | Philip Marlowe |
| Crumley, James | Milo Milodragovitch |
| Crumley, James | C.W. Sughrue |
| Ellroy, James | |
| Estleman, Loren D. | Amos Walker |
| Eversz, Robert | Nina Zero |

Hammett, Dashiell
Hammett, Dashiell
Leonard, Elmore
MacDonald, Ross
Mosley, Walter
Pelecanos, George
Spillane, Mickey
Stella, Charlie
Stark, Richard
Vachss, Andrew

Sam Spade
Continental Op

Lew Archer
Easy Rawlins
Nick Stefanos
Mike Hammer

Parker
Burke



HISTORICAL

Historical mysteries focus on a particular time period, but the theme and style vary greatly from novel to novel. These mysteries have detailed settings and often include real people and events from history.

Author

Series title or Character name

Allen, Conrad
Barron, Stephanie
Bowen, Rhys
Brightwell, Emily
Buckley, Fiona
Churchill, Jill
Cleverly, Barbara
Collins, Max Allan
Collins, Wilkie
Dams, Jeanne
Davis, Lindsey
Doherty, P. C.
Eyre, Elizabeth
Furutani, Dale
Gordon, Alan
Greenwood, Kerry
Gregory, Susanna

George Porter Dillman
Jane Austen
Molly Murphy
Mrs. Jeffries & Gerald Witherspoon
Queen Elizabeth I / Ursula Blanchard
Robert and Lily Brewster
Joe Sandilands
Nathan Heller

Hilda Johansson
Marcus Didius Falco
Hugh Corbett
Sigismondo
Matsuyama Kaze
Theophilus (Feste)
Phryne Fisher
Matthew Bartholomew



Harper, Karen
Kaminsky, Stuart
Kilian, Michael
King, Laurie R.
Lawton, John
Linscott, Gillian
Marston, Edward
Marston, Edward
McCrumb, Sharyn
McMillan, Ann
Monfredo, Miriam Grace
Morson, Ian
Nelscott, Kris
Newman, Sharan
Parry, Owen
Penman, Sharon Kay
Perry, Anne
Peters, Elizabeth
Peters, Ellis
Robb, Candace
Robinson, Lynda Suzanne
Roosevelt, Elliott
Rowland, Laura Joh
Saylor, Steven
Sedley, Kate

Elizabeth I
Toby Peters
Harrison Raines
Mary Russell / Sherlock Holmes
Frederick Troy
Nell Bray
Ralph Delchard & Gervase Bret
Nicholas Bracewell

Narcissa Powers
Glynis Tryon
William Falconer
Smokey Dalton
Catherine LeVendeur
Abel Jones
Justin de Quincy
Thomas and Charlotte Pitt
Amelia Peabody
Brother Cadfael
Owen Archer
Lord Meren
Eleanor Roosevelt
Sano Ichiro
Gordianus the Finder
Roger the Chapman

JOURNALISTS / REPORTERS

This category covers amateur detectives whose occupations are writing or reporting the news.

Author

Adamson, Isaac
Buchanan, Edna
Burke, Jan

Series title or Character name

Billy Chaka
Britt Montero
Irene Kelly



D'Amato, Barbara

Dunn, Carola

Fraser, Antonia

Hall, Patricia

Hamilton, Denise

Kent, Bill

McDermid, Val

McDonald, Gregory

Meier, Leslie

Shankman, Sarah

Walker, Mary Willis

Cat Marsala

Daisy Dalrymple

Jemima Shore

Laura Ackroyd & Mike Thackeray

Eve Diamond

Shep Ladderback & Andrea Cosicki

Lindsay Gordon

I.M. Fletcher

Lucy Stone

Samantha Adams

Molly Cates

LEGAL

Legal mysteries involve some aspect of the justice system. It may be that the detective is a lawyer or a judge, or the action may take place in the courtroom. Sometimes a particular point of the law is being disputed. The setting, which may vary from small town to big city to other countries, is often an important influence on the story.

Author

Series title or Character name

Barrett, Kathleen Anne

Beth Hartley

Bernhardt, William

Ben Kincaid

Brandon, Jay

Burke, James Lee

Billy Bob Holland

Connors, Rose

Marty Nickerson

Cooper, Natasha

Trish Maguire

Coughlin, William J.

Fairstein, Linda

Alexandra Cooper

Fyfield, Frances

Helen West

Fyfield, Frances

Sarah Fortune

Gardner, Erle Stanley

Perry Mason

Grippando, James

Jack Swytek

Grisham, John

Hall, Parnell

Stanley Hastings

Jacobs, Jonnie

Kali O'Brien



| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Kahn, Michael A. | Rachel Gold |
| Kane, Stephanie | Jackie Flowers |
| Lashner, William | Victor Carl |
| Lescroart, John T. | Dismas Hardy |
| Margolin, Phillip | |
| Maron, Margaret | Deborah Knott |
| Martini, Steve | Paul Madriani |
| Matera, Lia | Willa Jansson |
| McBain, Ed | Matthew Hope |
| McInerney, Ralph | Andrew Broom |
| Meek, M. R. D. | Lennox Kemp |
| Meltzer, Brad | |
| Mortimer, John Clifford | Horace Rumpole |
| O'Shaughnessy, Perri | Nina Reilly |
| Parker, Barbara | Gail Connor & Anthony Quintana |
| Patterson, Richard North | Christopher Paget |
| Rosenberg, Nancy Taylor | |
| Rosenfelt, David | Andy Carpenter |
| Scottoline, Lisa | Rosato and Associates |
| Siegel, Sheldon | Mike Daley & Rosie Fernandez |
| Tanenbaum, Robert | Butch Karp & Marlene Ciampi |
| Tapply, William G. | Brady Coyne |
| Truman, Margaret | Mac Smith & Annabel Reed |
| Turow, Scott | |
| Wilhelm, Kate | Barbara Holloway |
| Woods, Stuart | Stone Barrington |

LITERARY

Detectives in this category are book lovers: librarians, book collectors, booksellers, writers, or publishers. The setting and action revolves around the sleuth's job and provides the reader with information about the world of books.

Author

Series title or Character name

Abbott, Jeff

Jordan Poteet



Block, Lawrence

Dereske, Jo

Dunning, John

Handler, David

Harris, Charlaiane

Hart, Carolyn G.

Hess, Joan

Holt, Hazel

Kaewert, Julie Wallin

Krich, Rochelle Majer

Lewis, Roy Harley

MacDonald, Marianne

Pickard, Nancy

White, Kate

Bernie Rhodenbarr

Helma Zukas

Cliff Janeway

Hoagy Hoag

Aurora Teagarden

Annie Laurance

Claire Malloy

Sheila Malory

Alex Plumtree

Molly Blume

Matthew Coll

Dido Hoare

Marie Lightfoot

Bailey Weggins

MEDICAL

Doctors, nurses, and medical examiners are some of the sleuths you'll find solving crimes in medical mysteries. They use their special skills to help gather evidence, and often give the reader detailed descriptions of their work. The setting may vary from hospitals and morgues to other countries.

Author

Series title or Character name

Cook, Robin

Cornwell, Patricia

Donaldson, D.J.

Ephron, G.H.

Gerritsen, Tess

Gerritsen, Tess

Goldberg, Leonard S.

Hathaway, Robin

Hathaway, Robin

Johansen, Iris

Kittredge, Mary

Lovett, Sarah

Kay Scarpetta

Andy Broussard / Kit Franklyn

Peter Zak

Jane Rizzoli

Joanna Blalock

Jo Banks

Andrew Fenimore

Eve Duncan

Edwina Crusoe

Sylvia Strange

McCrumb, Sharyn
Palmer, Michael
Reichs, Kathy

Elizabeth MacPherson
Temperance Brennan



MISCELLANY

The sleuths in this category are amateur detectives and come from a variety of backgrounds and lifestyles. They vary from antiques collectors to outdoorspeople, and from seamstresses and scrapbookers to celebrities.

Author

Series title or Character name

Albert, Susan Wittig

China Bayles

Andrews, Donna

Turing Hopper

Andrews, Donna

Meg Langslow

Andrews, Sarah

Em Hansen

Atherton, Nancy

Lori Shepherd & Aunt Dimity

Ballard, Mignon F.

Augusta Goodnight

Barr, Nevada

Anna Pigeon

Baxt, George

Blanc, Nero

Belle Graham

Bowen, Peter

Gabriel Du Pre

Box, C. J.

Joe Pickett

Brett, Simon

Charles Paris

Campbell, R. Wright

Jimmy Flannery

Cannell, Dorothy

Ellie Haskell

Childs, Laura

Carmela Bertrand

Childs, Laura

Theodosia Browning

Churchill, Jill

Jane Jeffry

Coben, Harlan

Myron Bolitar

Cooper, Susan Rogers

E.J. Pugh

Crider, Bill

Truman Smith

DeAndrea, William L.

Deaver, Jeffery

Lincoln Rhyme

Edwards, Ruth Dudley

Robert Amiss

Elkins, Aaron

Gideon Oliver

Emerson, Earl
Ferrars, E. X.
Ferris, Monica
Fiffer, Sharon Sloan
Forrest, Richard
Fowler, Earlene
Gash, Jonathan
Gear, Kathleen O'Neal
Gorman, Edward
Goulart, Ron
Graves, Sarah
Hall, James W.
Hall, Parnell
Hamilton, Lyn
Hammond, Gerald
Harris, Charlaiane
Harrison, Janis
Higgins, George V.
Hoff, B. J.
Kozak, Harley Jane
Llewellyn, Sam
Lockridge, Frances & Richard
MacLeod, Charlotte
Malcolm, John
Massey, Sujata
McCafferty, Barbara Taylor
Michaels, Grant
Moody, Skye Kathleen
Pattison, Eliot
Pears, Iain
Perry, Thomas
Peters, Elizabeth
Rehder, Ben
Ripley, Ann
Rogow, Roberta

Mac Fontana

Betsy Devonshire
Jane Wheel
Lyon & Bea Wentworth
Benni Harper
Lovejoy
Dusty Stewart & Dr. Maureen Cole
Jack Dwyer
Groucho Marx
Jacobia Tiptree
Thorn
Cora Felton
Lara McClintoch
Keith Calder
Lily Bard
Bretta Solomon

Daniel and Jennifer Kaine
Wollie Shelley

Mr. & Mrs. North
Sarah Kelling & Max Bittersohn
Tim Simpson
Rei Shimura
Bert & Nan Tatum
Stan Kraychik
Venus Diamond
Shan Tao Yun
Jonathan Argyll & Flavia di Stefano
Jane Whitefield
Vicky Bliss
John Marlin
Louise Eldridge
Lewis Carroll & Sir Arthur Conan Doyle





Sayers, Dorothy
Seranella, Barbara
Sherwood, John
Soos, Troy
Spindler, Erica
Talton, Jon
Taylor, Phoebe Atwood
Wait, Lea
White, Stephen Walsh

Lord Peter Wimsey
Munch Mancini
Celia Grant
Mickey Rawlings

David Mapstone
Asey Mayo
Maggie Summer
Alan Gregory

OHIO MYSTERIES

The action in these mysteries is set in Ohio.

Author

Series title or Character name

Crusie, Jennifer
Gaus, Paul L.
Montanari, Richard
Roberts, Les
Short, Sharon Gwyn

Michael Branden

Milan Jacovich
Josie Toadfern

POLICE

The police procedural follows an officer or a team of investigators in their efforts to solve a crime: from tracking clues, to collecting evidence, to interviewing witnesses. The officers' actions are limited to the constraints of the law and the policies of the department. Officers may face conflict on the streets, and in the office, as well.

Author

Series title or Character name

Adcock, Thomas
Ball, John Dudley
Bannister, Jo
Donovan
Barnard, Robert
Barnard, Robert

Neil Hockaday
Virgil Tibbs
Frank Shapiro; Liz Shapiro; Cal

Perry Trethowan
Charlie Peace

Beaton, M.C.
Bland, Eleanor Taylor
Bowen, Rhys
Burke, James Lee
Butler, Gwendoline
Cleary, Jon
Connelly, Michael
Constantine, K. C.
Crider, Bill
Curzon, Clare
Daley, Robert
D'Amato, Barbara
Deaver, Jeffery
Dexter, Colin
Doss, James D.
Dunlap, Susan
Eccles, Marjorie
Ellis, Kate
Freeling, Nicolas
George, Elizabeth
Gill, Bartholomew
Glass, Leslie
Graham, Caroline
Granger, Ann
Greenleaf, Stephen
Grimes, Martha
Gunn, Elizabeth
Haddam, Jane
Hager, Jean
Harvey, John
Havill, Steven
Hayes, J. M.
Haymon, S. T.
Henry, Sue
Hess, Joan

Hamish MacBeth
Marti MacAlister
Evan Evans
Dave Robicheaux
John Coffin
Scobie Malone
Harry Bosch
Mario Balzic
Dan Rhodes
Mike Yeadings

Lincoln Rhyme
Inspector Morse
Charlie Moon
Jill Smith
Gil Mayo
Wes Peterson
Henri Castang
Thomas Lynley & Barbara Havers
Peter McGarr
April Woo
Tom Barnaby
Alan Markby & Meredith Mitchell
John Marshall Tanner
Richard Jury
Jake Hines
Gregor Demarkian
Mitchell Bushyhead
Charlie Resnick
Bill Gastner
Englishman
Ben Jurnet
Alex Jensen
Arly Hanks



Hill, Reginald
Hillerman, Tony
Hunter, Fred
James, P .D.
Jance, J. A.
Jance, J. A.
Jeffries, Roderic
Kaminsky, Stuart
Kaminsky, Stuart
Kava, Alex
Keating, H. R. F.
Kellerman, Faye
Kellerman, Jonathan
Krich, Rochelle Majer
Leon, Donna
Lindsey, David L.
Lockridge, Richard & Frances
Lovesey, Peter
Mankell, Henning
Maron, Margaret
Marsh, Ngaio
Marshall, William Leonard
O'Yee
Mayor, Archer
McBain, Ed
McGarrity, Michael
McGown, Jill
Mitchell, Kirk
Nabb, Magdalen
Nadel, Barbara
Nadelson, Reggie
O'Connell, Carol
O'Donnell, Lillian
Patterson, James
Pearce, Michael

Andrew Dalziel & Peter Pascoe
Jim Chee & Joe Leaphorn
Jeremy Ransom
Adam Dalgliesh
J.P. Beaumont
Joanna Brady
Enrique Alvarez
Abe Lieberman
Porfiry Petrovich Rostnikov
Maggie O'Dell
Ganesh Ghote
Peter Decker & Rina Lazarus
Milo Sturgis / Alex Delaware
Jessie Drake
Guido Brunetti

M.L. Heimrich
Peter Diamond
Kurt Wallander
Sigrid Harald
Roderick Alleyn
Harry Feiffer & Christopher Kwan

Joe Gunther
Steve Carella
Kevin Kerney
Lloyd & Judy Hill
Emmett Parker & Anna Turnipseed
Salvatore Guarnaccia
Cetin Ikmen
Artie Cohen
Kathleen Mallory
Norah Mulcahaney
Alex Cross
Gareth Owen



Pearson, Ridley
Peters, Ellis
Preston, Douglas J.
Pulver, Mary Monica
Rankin, Ian
Rendell, Ruth
Robinson, Peter
Robb, J. D.
Sandford, John
See, Lisa
Simenon, Georges
Simpson, Dorothy
Sjowall, Maj
Smith, Julie
Smith, Mary-Ann Tirone
Stabenow, Dana
Tey, Josephine
Turnbull, Peter
Turnbull, Peter
Van de Wetering, Janwillam
Weir, Charlene
Woods, Stuart
Wright, Eric

Lou Boldt & Daphne Matthews
George Felse
Pendergast
Peter Brichter
John Rebus
Reginald Wexford
Alan Banks
Eve Dallas
Lucas Davenport
Liu Hulan & David Stark
Jules Maigret
Luke Thanet
Martin Beck
Skip Langdon
Poppy Rice
Liam Campbell
Alan Grant
Hennessey & Yellich
P Division
Henk Grijpstra & Rinus DeGier
Susan Wren
Holly Barker
Charlie Salter



PRIVATE INVESTIGATORS

Private investigators (PI's) are professional sleuths. Their backgrounds vary, but they are all detectives by trade. They have more freedom in solving a case: they can choose to accept or reject a case, work at their own pace, and use various methods of detection work.

Author

Adams, Harold
Barnes, Linda
Beaton, M.C.

Series title or Character name

Carl Wilcox
Carlotta Carlyle
Agatha Raisin

Beck, K. K.
Benjamin, Carol Lea
Black, Cara
Block, Lawrence
Carr, John Dickson
Chesbro, George
Christie, Agatha
Christie, Agatha
Clark, Carol Higgins
Clark, Mindy Starns
Craig, Philip R.
Crais, Robert
Dawson, Janet
Dobyns, Stephen
Dunlap, Susan
Emerson, Earl
Engel, Howard
Evanovich, Janet
Grafton, Sue
Greeley, Andrew
Haywood, Gar Anthony
Kijewski, Karen
Lippman, Laura
Lutz, John
Lutz, John
MacDonald, John D.
Maxwell, A. E.
McCall Smith, Alexander
McDermid, Val
Muller, Marcia
Paretsky, Sara
Parker, Robert B.
Pickard, Nancy
Pronzini, Bill
Queen, Ellery

Jane da Silva
Rachel Alexander & Dash (dog)
Aimee Leduc
Matthew Scudder
Dr. Gideon Fell
Mongo
Hercule Poirot
Tommy and Tuppence Beresford
Regan Reilly
Callie Webber
Jeff Jackson
Elvis Cole
Jeri Howard
Charlie Bradshaw
Kiernan O'Shaughnessy
Thomas Black
Benny Cooperman
Stephanie Plum
Kinsey Millhone
Nuala Anne McGrail
Aaron Gunner
Kat Colorado
Tess Monaghan
Fred Carver
Alo Nudger
Travis McGee
Fiddler & Fiora
Precious Ramotswe
Kate Brannigan
Sharon McCone
V. I. Warshawski
Spenser
Jenny Cain
Nameless Detective
Ellery Queen





Rozan, S. J.
Sanders, Lawrence / Vincent Lardo
Smith, Julie
Stabenow, Dana
Stone, Michael
Stout, Rex / Robert Goldsborough
Swain, James
Trocheck, Kathy Hogan
Webb, Betty

Lydia Chin & Bill Smith
Arch McNally
Talba Wallis
Kate Shugak
Streeter
Nero Wolfe
Tony Valentine
Callahan Garrity
Lena Jones

PROFESSORS

Academic mysteries tend to focus on the eccentricities of its sleuth. In this list, all of the detectives are professors. The action may take place, but is not limited to a college campus. Typically, the reader will not find explicit violence in these novels.

Author

Series title or Character name

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Borthwick, J. S. | Sarah Deane & Alex McKenzie |
| Caudwell, Sarah | Hilary Tamar |
| Crider, Bill | Sally Good |
| Crispin, Edmund | Gervase Fen |
| Cross, Amanda | Kate Fansler |
| Dobson, Joanne | Karen Pelletier |
| Isenberg, Jane | Bel Barrett |
| McInerny, Ralph | Roger & Philip Knight |
| Shaber, Sarah | Simon Shaw |

RELIGIOUS

Priests, Nuns, and Rabbis are some of the detectives investigating crime in religious mysteries. The action may take place in or near a religious institution, or the themes may be religious in nature.

Author

Series title or Character name

Benrey, Janet and Ron

Pippa Hunnechurch



Blackstock, Terri
Black, Veronica
Blake, Michelle
Charles, Kate
Chesterton, G.K.
Coel, Margaret
Dengler, Sandy
Frazer, Margaret
Gansky, Alton
Greeley, Andrew
Kahn, Sharon
Kellerman, Faye
Kemelman, Harry
Kienzle, William
McInerny, Ralph
O'Marie, Carol Anne
Peters, Ellis
Tremayne, Peter

Sr. Joan
Lily Connor
Lucy Kingsley & David Middleton-Brown
Father Brown
Fr. John O'Malley & Vicky Holden
Jack Prester
Sister Frevisse

Bishop Blackie Ryan
Ruby Rothman
Peter Decker & Rina Lazarus
David Small
Fr. Robert Koesler
Father Dowling
Sr. Mary Helen
Brother Cadfael
Sr. Fidelma

SENIOR DETECTIVES

In this category, many of the detectives are women, and many are retired. They are amateur sleuths, who often just find themselves in the middle of a crime investigation.

Author

Abresch, Peter E.
Barth, Richard
Bell, Nancy
Boylan, Eleanor
Brett, Simon
Christie, Agatha
Crane, Hamilton
Dams, Jeanne
George, Anne
Gilman, Dorothy

Series title or Character name

James P. Dandy
Margaret Binton
Biggie Weatherford
Clara Gamadge
Mrs. Pargeter
Miss Jane Marple
Miss Seeton
Dorothy Martin
Mary Alice & Patricia Anne
Mrs. Pollifax

Hart, Carolyn G.
Sawyer, Corinne Holt

Henrie O
Angela Benbow & Caledonia Wingate



SUSPENSE

Suspense novels focus more on why a crime was committed as opposed to who did it. The psychology of the suspect is very important. There is usually an underlying theme of uneasiness and loss of control in these novels.

Author

Baldacci, David
Brown, Dan
Clark, Mary Higgins
Cook, Thomas H.
DeMille, Nelson
Fielding, Joy
Garwood, Julie
Hiassen, Carl
Highsmith, Patricia
Hoag, Tami
Holt, Victoria
Hooper, Kay
Iles, Greg
Johnston, Velda
Kerr, Philip
Law, Janice
Ludlum, Robert
Lustbader, Eric van
MacDonald, Patricia
Michaels, Barbara
Sheldon, Sidney
Whitney, Phyllis
Woods, Stuart