

## For Mystery Book Club Participants and Other Mystery Fans At Manchester Public Library, Manchester MA

Last Update: 9/26/20

### *“If You Like That, Maybe You’d Like This”*

This list was lifted from the website of the Maynard Public Library, Maynard MA. I added another 30 authors and reorganized it. -Dick Goutal - September, 2020

**NOTE: Reading this as a PDF on your computer/device makes all the author names and other links “clickable.”**

**Download Here: [MBFan.site/if](http://MBFan.site/if)**

For more help using this document and finding good books, visit: [www.mbfan.site/findingbooks](http://www.mbfan.site/findingbooks)

Clicking on the author name in the lists below will take you to a selection of the author’s books on the Merrimac Valley Library Consortium (MVLC) of which the Manchester-by-the-Sea Public Library is a member. You can “put a hold on” the book while you’re there, if desired.

When you use the author link to MVLC you may be surprised at books that don’t resemble the category in which you found the author. *Remember, while some percentage of an author’s books will fit the categories (and the category descriptions) under which they have been placed, some writers also write in a variety of other categories, including books that are not mysteries or thrillers at all!*

Also, the MVLC link will likely produce way more than 70 choices. Overwhelming! Tons of unrelated stuff. In that case, you should:

- **First get clarity about all that an author has written, by looking up the author on [StopYoureKillingMe.com](http://StopYoureKillingMe.com) (SYKM).**
- Select a few titles you might like to try from the author’s page at SYKM.
- Go back to MVLC and search as follows:
  - by “Books & More” instead of “Everything.”
  - By “Keyword” instead of “Author or “Title.” Why? Searching by “Title” works 60-70% of the time but often a title is used by scores of other authors.
  - In the search box, write the book TITLE and the author’s LAST NAME.

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### **Unreliable Narrators (Psychological Thrillers)**

Did you like *Gone Girl* or *The Girl on the Train*? Are you drawn in by the possibility that the narrator might not be telling you the truth? Then check out these shifty authors:

- |                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. <a href="#">Fiona Barton</a>     | 8. <a href="#">Kimberly McCreight</a> |
| 2. <a href="#">J.P. Delaney</a>     | 9. <a href="#">B.A. Paris</a>         |
| 3. <a href="#">A. J. Finn</a>       | 10. <a href="#">Wendy Walker</a>      |
| 4. <a href="#">Gillian Flynn</a>    | 11. <a href="#">Minette Walters</a>   |
| 5. <a href="#">Paula Hawkins</a>    | 12. <a href="#">Ruth Ware</a>         |
| 6. <a href="#">Jennifer Hillier</a> | 13. <a href="#">S.J. Watson</a>       |
| 7. <a href="#">Clare Mackintosh</a> | 14. <a href="#">Stephen White</a>     |

### **No Rules Thrillers**

Do you ask yourself "What would Reacher do?" as you are reading a thriller? Here are some series that feature good guys and gals who aren't afraid to bust out their tough side in the pursuit of justice:

15. [Lee Child](#)
16. [John Connolly](#)
17. [Joseph Finder](#)
18. [Gregg Hurwitz](#)
19. [Dean Koontz](#)
20. [Thomas Perry](#)
21. [Nick Petrie](#)
22. [Randy Wayne White](#)

### **Thriller Masters**

Domestic, psychological or scary? Unlikely hero or avenging mom? Serial killers or just serial criminals? However you like your thrillers, these masters of the craft will keep you on the edge of your seat.

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 23. <a href="#">Linwood Barclay</a>    | 34. <a href="#">Andrew Gross</a>    |
| 24. <a href="#">Lisa Black</a>         | 35. <a href="#">Sophie Hannah</a>   |
| 25. <a href="#">Sharon Bolton</a>      | 36. <a href="#">John Hart</a>       |
| 26. <a href="#">Alafair Burke</a>      | 37. <a href="#">Greg Iles</a>       |
| 27. <a href="#">Chelsea Cain</a>       | 38. <a href="#">David Morrell</a>   |
| 28. <a href="#">Jane Casey</a>         | 39. <a href="#">James Patterson</a> |
| 29. <a href="#">Mary Higgins Clark</a> | 40. <a href="#">Ridley Pearson</a>  |
| 30. <a href="#">Harlan Coben</a>       | 41. <a href="#">Karin Slaughter</a> |
| 31. <a href="#">Jeffrey Deaver</a>     | 42. <a href="#">Chevy Stevens</a>   |
| 32. <a href="#">Joy Fielding</a>       | 43. <a href="#">Peter Swanson</a>   |
| 33. <a href="#">Meg Gardiner</a>       | 44. <a href="#">Lisa Unger</a>      |

## ***Hard-Boiled Mysteries***

**Do you like your detectives with a certain amount of gritty swagger? These leading men walk the line as they rid the mean streets of criminals. Note the dates in parentheses that tell you when they were published:**

### ***Classic Hard-Boiled:***

45. **Raymond Chandler** Philip Marlowe, a private eye in 1940-50s LA (1939-1958)
46. **Dashiell Hammett** Sam Spade, a PI in 1930-40s San Francisco; Nick and Nora Charles the PI couple. (1929-1951)
47. **Ross MacDonald** Lew Archer, an ex-cop and PI, in Los Angeles (1947-1977)
48. **Mickey Spillane** Mike Hammer the most hard-boiled PI?? in NYC (1947-1996)
49. **Rex Stout** Nero Wolfe, PI, orchid cultivator, & assistant Archie Goodwin, in NYC (1934-1975)

### ***"Modern Hard-Boiled" - Continuation:***

50. **Lawrence Sanders** Matt Scudder, a reformed alcoholic & unlicensed PI, in NYC (1976-2011)
51. **Ken Bruen** Jack Taylor, a private "finder" alcoholic former cop in Galway, Ireland (2001-2020)
52. **Max Allan Collins** Quarry, a psychotic Vietnam vet and hired killer in Iowa (1976-2020)
53. **Dennis Lehane** Patrick Kenzie and Angela Gennaro, PIs in Boston (1994-2010)
54. **Barry Eisler** John Rain, a freelance assassin in Tokyo, Japan (2002-2019)
55. **Stuart Neville** Cops in Belfast, N Ireland (2009-2016)
56. **Bill Pronzini** the Nameless detective, still hard-boiled, in SF (1971-2017)
57. **Andrew Vachss** Burke, outlaw soldier-of-fortune investigator in NYC (1985-2016)

### ***"Modern Hard-Boiled" - Transition to Soft-Sided or Other Directions):***

58. **Stuart Kaminsky** Toby Peters, a 1940s Hollywood P.I. in LA (1977-2004)
59. **Elmore Leonard** Many ironic, nuanced characters (1969-2012)
60. **John MacDonald** Travis McGee, an adventurer who does favors for friends, in Florida (1964-1985)
61. **Robert B. Parker** Spenser, Boston PI (the MODEL for the transition from hard to soft-boiled PIs) (1973-2012)
62. **Donald Westlake** John Dortmunder, criminal master planner in NYC (ironic noir?) (1970-2008)

### ***Private Investigators***

**Hard-boiled or not, PIs are available for hire. Need more? Look under the sub-category "Hard-Boiled." (You can look up the [name of any fictional PI here.](#))**

63. [Linda Barnes](#) Carlotta Carlyle, taxi driving Boston PI
64. [Philip Craig](#) J W Jackson, ex-cop on Martha's Vineyard
65. [Robert Crais](#) Elvis Cole, Joe Pike PIs in Los Angeles area
66. [Aaron Elkins](#) Gideon Oliver, anthropology professor in Washington (State)
67. [Dick Francis](#) various PIs connected with the horse racing business in England
68. [Sue Grafton](#) Kinsey Millhone, a private eye in fictional Santa Teresa, California
69. [Jeremiah Healy](#) John Francis Cuddy, former Army MP, now Boston PI (1984-2003)
70. [Michael Koryta](#) Lincoln Perry and Joe Pritchard, PIs in Cleveland, Ohio
71. [Laura Lippman](#) Tess Monaghan, a private investigator in Baltimore
72. [Marcia Muller](#) Sharon McCone, a legal investigator and PI, in San Francisco
73. [Sara Paretsky](#) V.I. Warshawski, an attorney turned private eye, in Chicago
74. [Stuart Woods](#) - Stone Barrington, an ex-cop and attorney, in New York City

### ***Police Procedurals - Cops/FBI/etc***

**They get paid to track down the bad guys, but for these men and women, truth and justice are more than just a job.**

75. [M.C. Beaton](#) Hamish Macbeth, a police constable in Scotland
76. [Mark Billingham](#) Tom Thorne, middle aged detective inspector in London
77. [James Lee Burke](#) Dave Robicheaux a deputy sheriff in Louisiana
78. [Linda Castillo](#) Kate Burkholder, police in the Amish area of Ohio
79. [Bruce Robert Coffin](#) Detective Sergeant John Byron in Portland, ME
80. [Michael Connelly](#) Harry Bosch, LAPD detective. THE WORLD'S BEST ;-)
81. [Nelson Demille](#) New York police detectives
82. [Kate Flora](#) Joe Burgess, detective in Portland ME
83. [Lisa Gardner](#) D D Warren, police detective in Boston
84. [J.A. Jance](#) J.P. Beaumont, homicide detective in Seattle, Washington
85. [Faye Kellerman](#) Peter Decker, a police detective in Los Angeles
86. [Lynda LaPlante](#) Jane Tennison, a detective chief inspector in London.
87. [Archer Mayor](#) Joe Gunther, police detective in Brattleboro, Vermont
88. [Margaret Maron](#) Deborah Knott, district judge in North Carolina
89. [Ed McBain](#) 87th precinct cops in New York City
90. [T. Jefferson Parker](#) sheriff's deputies in southern California
91. [John Sandford](#) Lucas Davenport, police detective in Minneapolis
92. [Julia Spencer-Fleming](#) a female priest assists local police in rural New York
93. [Joseph Wambaugh](#) vignettes of LAPD cops woven into books

### ***Investigative Journalists***

**Reporters who solve crimes and fight for justice.**

94. [Mark Arsenault](#) Four books, two short snooping reporter series: one in Lowell, MA the other in Providence, RI. Fun reads.
95. [R. G. Belsky](#) Four short reporter-as-investigator series all in NYC.
96. [Gerry Boyle](#) Jack McMorrow, reporter in Mid-Maine
97. [Jan Burke](#) Irene Kelly, a newspaper reporter in southern California
98. [Michael Connelly](#) Jack McEvoy, reporter in Colorado & later, southern California
99. [Julie Kramer](#) Riley Spartz, an investigative TV reporter, in Minneapolis

## **Legal Mysteries/Thrillers**

**Are you fascinated by lawyers in tight spots or courtroom drama? These legal eagles defend the innocent and put the bad guys behind bars (and some might put them in the ground):**

100. **William Bernhardt** Ben Kincaid, an attorney in Tulsa, Oklahoma
101. **D. W. Buffa** Joseph Antonelli, a criminal lawyer in Portland, Oregon
102. **Michael Connelly** Mickey Haller, the Lincoln Lawyer, in LA County
103. **Rose Connors** Martha "Marty" Nickerson, a prosecuting attorney, on Cape Cod
104. **William Deverell** Arthur Beauchamp, a scholarly, retired lawyer hobby farming on Garibaldi Island, off the coast of BC, Canada (Check used bookstores)
105. **William Diehl** Martin Vail, a defense attorney in Chicago, IL (of **Primal Fear** fame)
106. **Robert Dugoni** David Sloane, a lawyer in Seattle (and other series)
107. **Linda Fairstein** Alexandra Cooper, ADA in the Sex Crimes Prosecution Unit of NYCity
108. **J.F. Freedman** Stand Alone books, not all great. But **Key Witness** is one of my favorite lawyer books ever.
109. **Erle Stanley Gardner** Perry Mason, attorney in LA County. He's the GREAT FOUNDATION! THANK YOU MR. GARDNER! (pub between 1933-1973)
110. **James Grippando** Jack Swyteck, a criminal defense lawyer in Miami
111. **John Grisham** 15 non-series legal thrillers (mostly) set in the south; half dozen made into blockbuster movies
112. **David Hosp** Boston attorney. Our field trip to the Gardener Museum is based on his 3rd and apparently final book, **Among Thieves**
113. **John Lescroart** Dismas Hardy, ex-cop bartender and ex-ADA turned defense attorney, and Abe Glitsky, a black, Jewish cop, in San Francisco, California
114. **Paul Levine** Two lawyer series in Florida, with strong dose of slapstick humor
115. **Steve Martini** Paul Madriani, a defense attorney in California
116. **John Mortimer** The elderly Horace Rumpole (of the Bailey) in London (UK TV show)
117. **Michael Nava** Henry Rios, a gay criminal defense lawyer in Los Angeles
118. **Perri O'Shaughnessy** Nina Reilly, a struggling, young attorney in Lake Tahoe - The first book was one of the most highly rated books ever in the MBC
119. **Barbara Parker** Gail Connor, a corporate attorney in Miami, Florida
120. **Richard North Patterson** Also belongs in the political thriller category. Christopher Paget, a lawyer working on the Washington Economic Crimes Committee. Other series, too.
121. **Nancy Taylor Rosenberg** Two short series & standalones mostly set in California.
122. **Lisa Scottoline** Rosato & Associates, an all-women law firm in Philadelphia. And a pile of legal thriller standalones.
123. **Sheldon Siegel** Mike Daley, lawyer and ex-priest, in San Francisco
124. **Robert Tanenbaum** Roger "Butch" Karp, Criminal Courts Bureau chief, and Marlene Ciampi, ADA, starting in 1970s (although the books are pub between 1987-2017).
125. **William Tapply** Tapply was a beloved mystery writer mentor in Massachusetts, and a one-time speaker at the MBC. His character: Brady Coyne, a sports fisherman and lawyer, in Boston
126. **Scott Turow** The Kindle County series that begins with **Presumed Innocent** a book that got mixed reviews in the MBC (aver rating 86), but was well written.
127. **Norb Vonnegut** Grove O'Rourke, a stockbroker at large investment firm, in NYCity

### ***Political & Military Thrillers***

These heroes are spies, politicians and military men. They might have different world views, but they all agree that they would do anything to defend and protect their country:

- 128. [David Baldacci](#)
- 129. [Ted Bell](#)
- 130. [Larry Bond](#)
- 131. [Dale Brown](#)
- 132. [Tom Clancy](#)
- 133. [Stephen Coontz](#)
- 134. [Vince Flynn](#)
- 135. [W.E.B. Griffin](#)

- 136. [Jack Higgins](#)
- 137. [Stephen Hunter](#)
- 138. [Mike Lawson](#)
- 139. [Brad Meltzer](#)
- 140. [Joel Rosenberg](#)
- 141. [Brad Taylor](#)
- 142. [Brad Thor](#)
- 143. [Margaret Truman](#)

### ***Spy Thrillers***

International intrigue, exotic locales, the fate of the world hanging in the balance...if this sounds like the adventure you have been looking for, check out these spy masters:

- 144. [Alex Berenson](#)
- 145. [Charles Cumming](#)
- 146. [Joseph Kanon](#)
- 147. [John Le Carre](#)
- 148. [Ken Follett](#)
- 149. [Dorothy Gilman](#) (light-hearted)
- 150. [Oliver Harris](#)
- 151. [Robert Ludlum](#)
- 152. [Christopher Reich](#)
- 153. [Daniel Silva](#)
- 154. [Olen Steinhauer](#)

### ***Mysteries in the Great Outdoors***

Sometimes the setting is as much a character in a story as the people. Travel to some of the wild places of the United States with these intrepid sleuths:

- 155. [Nevada Barr](#) Anna Pigeon, a park ranger at various national parks
- 156. [C.J. Box](#) Joe Pickett, a game warden in the Bighorn Mountains of Wyoming
- 157. [Paul Doiron](#) Mike Bowditch, a game warden in the wilds of Maine
- 158. [Sue Henry](#) Jessie Arnold, a dog sled racer, & Sgt Alex Jensen, a state cop in Alaska
- 159. [Tony Hillerman](#) Lt Joe Leaphorn and Jim Chee, Navajo tribal police officers in SW USA
- 160. [Craig Johnson](#) Walt Longmire, veteran sheriff in Absaroka County, Wyoming
- 161. [William Kent Krueger](#) Cork O'Connor, part Irish - part Ojibwe ex-sheriff in rural MN

### ***Amateur Sleuths***

**Do you relate to Miss Marple? These leading ladies do too - solving mysteries with their wits, despite not having the proper credentials:**

- 162. **Susan Wittig Albert** China Bayles, an herbalist & former attorney in Texas
- 163. **Donna Andrews** Meg Langslow, decorative blacksmith in a small Virginia town
- 164. **M.C. Beaton** Agatha Raisin, advertising retiree living in the Cotswolds, England
- 165. **Dorothy Cannell** Ellie Haskell, interior decorator, Ben Haskell, a writer and chef
- 166. **Kate Carlisle** Brooklyn Wainwright, a rare book expert in San Francisco
- 167. **Jill Churchill** Jane Jeffry, a suburban housewife and sleuth in Chicago
- 168. **Mary Daheim** Judith McMonigle Flynn, bed and breakfast owner in Seattle
- 169. **Jeanne Dams** Dorothy Martin, an American schoolteacher retired in England
- 170. **Carolyn Hart** Annie Laurance, a mystery bookstore owner in Broward's Rock, SC
- 171. **Katherine Hall Page** Faith Fairchild, clergyman's wife in a small New England town
- 172. **Cynthia Riggs** Victoria Trumbull, a 92-year old poet & deputy cop on Martha's Vineyard

### ***Laugh Out Loud Mysteries***

**Do you wish that Stephanie Plum was your BFF? Here are some mystery writers that add a twist of comedy with their crime:**

- 173. **Ellen Byerrum** Lacey Smithsonian, "Crime of Fashion" columnist, in Washington, DC
- 174. **Meg Cabot** Heather Wells, former teen pop star turned PI in New York City
- 175. **Joelle Charbonneau** Roller skating rink manager series & HS Glee Club coach series
- 176. **Tim Dorsey** Serial killer Serge Storms and others are in these satirical Florida thrillers
- 177. **Janet Evanovich** Stephanie Plum, bounty hunter in Trenton, New Jersey
- 178. **Charlaine Harris** Aurora Teagarden, a librarian in Georgia - & Other series
- 179. **Darynda Jones** Charlotte Davidson is a PI who gets help by talking to the dead, in Albuquerque. A paranormal romantic suspense series.
- 180. **Sharon Kahn** Ruby Rothman, a rabbi's widow in Eternal, Texas
- 181. **Laura Levine** Jaine Austen, a freelance writer in Los Angeles
- 182. **Lisa Lutz** "Izzy" Spellman, a 28-years old sleuth working for her parents' PI firm, in San Francisco
- 183. **Nancy Martin** Nora, Emma, and Libby Blackbird, three sisters who inherit a two million dollar tax debt from their high-society parents in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 184. **Elaine Viets** Helen Hawthorne, who gave up her affluent lifestyle for a series of minimum-wage jobs in Florida, in the Dead End Job series

### **The English / Irish / Canadian Mystery**

**These authors can trace their roots back to Agatha Christie, though perhaps with a bit more danger, suspense and technology. If you are a fan of P.D. James or Elizabeth George, then these modern sleuths might appeal to you:**

185. [Kate Atkinson](#) Jackson Brodie, an ex-cop, ex-husband, and PI, in the UK
186. [Jo Bannister](#) Five different series, all set in England
187. [Ann Cleeves](#) Four cop series in UK including Chief Inspector Vera Stanhope in Yorkshire & Jimmy Perez in the Shetlands (made for British TV).
188. [Deborah Crombie](#) Duncan Kincaid, a Scotland Yard superintendent, in London
189. [Colin Dexter](#) Chief Inspector Morse, an inspector in Oxford, England
190. [Christopher Fowler](#) Arthur Bryant & John May, detectives in Peculiar Crimes Unit, London
191. [Tana French](#) Police detectives on the murder squad in Dublin, Ireland
192. [Elizabeth George](#) Scotland Yard inspector Thomas Lynley & team, in London
193. [Elly Griffiths](#) Dr. Ruth Galloway, forensic archaeologist, & Harry Nelson, detective near Norfolk, England
194. [Martha Grimes](#) Richard Jury, a Scotland Yard investigator based in London
195. [P.D. James](#) Adam Dalgliesh, acclaimed poet and Scotland Yard commander, in London
196. [Peter James](#) Roy Grace, a Detective Superintendent of the CID, in Sussex, England
197. [Peter Lovesey](#) Peter Diamond, a homicide detective in Bath, England
198. [G.M. Malliet](#) Max Tudor, a former MI-5 agent, now vicar in an idyllic English village
199. [Peter May](#) Fin Macleod, a detective inspector in Edinburgh, returns to his birthplace, the Isle of Lewis, in the Outer Hebrides of Scotland, in the Lewis trilogy
200. [Val McDermid](#) Dr. Tony Hill, a forensic psychologist & 3 other series in England & Scotland
201. [Louise Penny](#) Chief Inspector Armand Gamache, Provincial police, in rural Quebec, Canada:
202. [Ian Rankin](#) John Rebus, a detective sergeant in Edinburgh, Scotland
203. [Ruth Rendell](#) Reginald Wexford, a chief inspector in Sussex, England
204. [Peter Robinson](#) Alan Banks, Eastvale detective chief inspector, in Yorkshire, England

### **Scandinavian Thrillers**

**Scandinavian authors have a distinct style all their own. If you liked the *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, here are a few other authors that have a similar gritty appeal:**

205. [Jussi Adler-Olsen](#) Denmark
206. [Sara Blaedel](#) Denmark
207. [Kjell Eriksson](#) Sweden
208. [Karin Fossum](#) Norway
209. [Arnaldur Indridason](#) Iceland
210. [Ragnar Jonasson](#) Iceland
211. [Camilla Lackberg](#) Sweden
212. [Stieg Larsson](#) Sweden
213. [Henning Mankell](#) Sweden
214. [Jo Nesbo](#) Norway
215. [Yrsa Sigurdardottir](#) Iceland

### ***Mystery in a Foreign Land***

**Are you a world traveler? Or just wish you were? These authors will take you around the world with their stories of mystery and suspense:**

- 216. [Cara Black](#) Paris, France
- 217. [Andrea Camilleri](#) Sicily, Italy
- 218. [Michael Dibdin](#) Rome, Italy
- 219. [Donna Leon](#) Venice, Italy
- 220. [Sujata Massey](#) Japan; India
- 221. [Deon Meyer](#) Capetown, South Africa
- 222. [Kwei Quartey](#) Accra, Ghana
- 223. [Alexander McCall Smith](#) Botswana
- 224. [Martin Cruz Smith](#) The old Soviet Russia, Cuba
- 225. [Marco Vichi](#) Florence, Italy

### ***Massachusetts Mysteries***

**As an example of finding mysteries in other settings:**

<http://www.stopyoure Killingme.com/LocationCats/USA/Massachusetts.html>

### ***Historical Mysteries***

**Perhaps you would rather travel back in time, when detectives had only their wits, and not a smart phone, to help them catch a killer:**

- 226. [Tasha Alexander](#) Lady Emily Ashton, a young widow in **Victorian London**
- 227. [Stephanie Barron](#) The lead character is Jane Austen, the intrepid author of PRIDE AND PREJUDICE, who has a secret detective career in **Regency England**
- 228. [Carrie Bebris](#) Her series continues the story ended in Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice, in **Regency (early 1800s) England**, in the Mr. and Mrs. Darcy mysteries
- 229. [James R. Benn](#) Billy Boyle, a Boston cop from a family of Boston cops, on the staff of distant relative, General Eisenhower, **during WWII**
- 230. [Benjamin Black](#) Quirke, a coroner in **1950s Dublin, Ireland**
- 231. [Rhys Bowen](#) Molly Murphy, an Irish immigrant in **early 20th-century NY City** who wants to be a private investigator; and in another series, Lady Georgiana, minor royalty in **1930s England**
- 232. [Alan Bradley](#) Flavia de Luce, an 11-year old sleuth and aspiring chemist, in the a **small 1950s village in England**
- 233. [Alys Clare](#) Abbess Helewise and Sir Josse d'Acquin, a French knight, at the Hawkenlye Abbey in **England during the 12th century**, and in another series, Lassair, a 14-year-old girl with special gifts training to be a healer in a Fenland village, in **11th century England**
- 234. [Barbara Cleverly](#) Commander Joe Sandilands, a Scotland Yard detective assigned to **post-WWI India**
- 235. [Lindsey Davis](#) Marcus Didius Falco, an "informer" for Emperor Vespasian in **1st century Rome**
- 236. [Carola Dunn](#) Daisy Dalrymple, a journalist in **1920s Hampshire, England**
- 237. [Marjorie Eccles](#) Herbert Reardon, a detective inspector in **late 1920s England**
- 238. [Charles Finch](#) Charles Lenox, a gentleman sleuth, in **1860s London**

239. [Ariana Franklin](#) Adelia, a “doctor for the dead” working for King Henry II in **12th century England**
240. [Susanna Gregory](#) Matthew Bartholomew, physician, and his colleague Brother Michael, in **14th century Cambridge, England**
241. [Karen Harper](#) Elizabeth I in **1500s England**
242. [C.S. Harris](#) Sebastian St. Cyr, Viscount Devlin, an investigator in **Regency England**
243. [Michael Jecks](#) In his largest series, the Templar stories, Simon Puttock, medieval West County bailiff, and Sir Baldwin Furnhill, ex-Templar Knight, try to do right in **1300s Devon, England**
244. [Philip Kerr](#) Bernie Gunther, a German private eye who hates the Nazis, in Berlin, **Germany, 1936-1947**, and later in Argentina, Cuba, and elsewhere
245. [Laurie King](#) Mary Russell, student and then wife of Sherlock Holmes, **early 20th century England**
246. [Anne Perry](#) Thomas and Charlotte Pitt, a police inspector and wife in **Victorian London, England**
247. [Elizabeth Peters](#) Amelia Peabody, a feminist archaeologist on adventure in **Victorian times in Egypt** and at home in Kent, England
248. [Amanda Quick](#) Lavinia Lake and Tobias March, lovers and partners-in-crime investigators in **Regency London, England**
249. [Deanna Raybourn](#) Veronica Speedwell, a young woman seeking adventure in **1880s London, England**
250. [C.J. Sansom](#) Matthew Shardlake, a lawyer in **mid-16th century England**
251. [Steven Saylor](#) Gordianus the Finder, a private investigator in the **1st century BCE in Rome, Italy**, in the Roma sub Rosa series
252. [Victoria Thompson](#) Sarah Brandt, a midwife in **turn-of-the-20th-century New York City**, in the Gaslight Mysteries
253. [Charles Todd](#) Ian Rutledge, a shell-shocked **World War I veteran** returning to his job at Scotland Yard, in London; and, Bess Crawford, a British army nurse in WWI
254. [Peter Tremayne](#) Sister Fidelma, a Celtic sister and legal advocate in **7th century Kildare, Ireland** **See background.**
255. [Jacqueline Winspear](#) Maisie Dobbs, a psychologist and investigator based in **1920s and 1930s London**

### Medical Thrillers

Are you intrigued by what could go wrong at a hospital or in the details of forensic science? If you don't get squeamish, then these thrillers are for you:

256. [Jefferson Bass](#)  
 257. [Robin Cook](#)  
 258. [Patricia Cornwell](#)  
 259. [Tess Gerritsen](#)  
 260. [Michael Palmer](#)  
 261. [Kathy Reichs](#)

## Art & History

Dan Brown showed readers that you could enjoy a good thriller and learn something about art and history at the same time:

- 262. [Steve Berry](#)
- 263. [Dan Brown](#)
- 264. [Raymond Khoury](#)
- 265. [Douglas Preston & Lincoln Child](#)
- 266. [Matthew Reilly](#)
- 267. [James Rollins](#)

## Solving Mysteries with a Furry Friend

Everything is better when you have your best friend at your side. These amateur sleuths solve crimes with the aid of their intuitive four-legged pals:

- 268. [Laurien Berenson](#) Melanie Travis, a special education teacher who shows her standard poodles in **dog** shows, in Connecticut
- 269. [Lilian Jackson Braun](#) Jim Qwilleran, a journalist, with **cats** Koko and Yum Yum in small town in northeast central US.
- 270. [Rita Mae Brown](#) Mary Minor Haristeen, a postmistress and her **cat**, Mrs. Murphy, in Crozet, Virginia:
- 271. [Susan Conant](#) Holly Winter, a **dog** trainer and magazine columnist in Cambridge, MA
- 272. [Krista Davis](#) Holly Miller, returning home to run the pet-friendly Sugar Maple Inn, in fictional Wagtail, Virginia, in the Paws and Claws mysteries. **Both?**
- 273. [Carole Nelson Douglas](#) Temple Barr, public relations freelancer, and Midnight Louie, **tomcat** sleuth, in Las Vegas
- 274. [Miranda James](#) Charlie Harris, a widowed librarian, and Diesel, a Maine coon **cat**, in the college town of Athena, Mississippi, in the Cat in the Stacks series
- 275. [Alex Kava](#) Ryder Creed, a former marine who trains K9 search-and-rescue **dogs** in Florida, with appearances by Maggie O'Dell (another series she writes), an FBI Criminal Profiler
- 276. [Spencer Quinn](#) Chet the **dog**, the faithful companion of Arizona private investigator Bernie Little in the Chet and Bernie series
- 277. [David Rosenfelt](#) Andy Carpenter, an irreverent defense attorney in Paterson, New Jersey who loves **dogs**.

### ***Romantic Thrillers***

Who says you can't find true love while solving a crime? These writers know how to turn up the heat:

- 278. [Suzanne Brockman](#)
- 279. [Sandra Brown](#)
- 280. [Catherine Coulter](#)
- 281. [Heather Graham](#)
- 282. [Tami Hoag](#)
- 283. [Kay Hooper](#)
- 284. [Linda Howard](#)
- 285. [Lisa Jackson](#)
- 286. [Iris Johansen](#)
- 287. [Jayne Ann Krentz](#)
- 288. [Elizabeth Lowell](#)
- 289. [Carla Neggers](#)
- 290. [Karen Robards](#)
- 291. [Nora Roberts as J D Robb](#) These books are in a category of their own since they take place in 2058 and beyond. A blend of police procedural, romance, and science fiction.

### ***Food Mysteries***

Last, and certainly least in my view, are some sleuths that understand that you can solve crime much faster if there are snacks involved:

- 292. [Alexander Campion](#)
- 293. [Chris Cavender](#)
- 294. [Laura Childs](#)
- 295. [Cleo Coyle](#)
- 296. [Diane Mott Davidson](#)
- 297. [Joanne Fluke](#)
- 298. [G.A. McKeveit](#)
- 299. [Jenn McKinlay](#)
- 300. [Leslie Meier](#)
- 301. [Tamar Myers](#)

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