

# Mystery

## What's it all about...

The Mystery genre describes detective or crime fiction. Plots revolve around professional or amateur detectives investigating and solving crimes. This is a broad genre that also includes crime scene fiction, legal mysteries, cozy mysteries, hard-boiled private eye fiction, and humorous mysteries.

Regardless of the specific flavor, and there are many, readers of mysteries enjoy participating in the puzzle with the protagonist. The ordered moral setting where good and bad are may be readily identified and conclusions that see justice served are also appreciated.

## The classic works:

- *Murders in the Rue Morgue* (1841) by Edgar Allan Poe
- *The Maltese Falcon* (1929) by Dashiell Hammett
- *Cover Her Face* (1962) by P.D. James
- *Knots and Crosses* (1987) by Ian Rankin

## Resources to find the best in Mystery:

- **11 Most Popular Contemporary Mystery Authors:** Bernard Drew's reference work provides author sketches and bibliographies
- **Topmystery.com:** regularly updated blog with news and reviews
- **Mysterybooks.ca:** good coverage of popular titles with annotations and read-alikes
- **Books to Die For:** an anthology of the genre that includes authors writing about their favorite mysteries

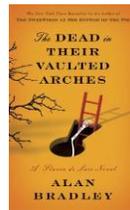
## Your list of recent titles:

- *The Cuckoo's Calling* (2013) by Robert Galbraith



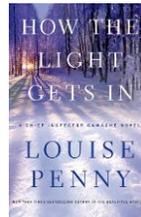
Afghanistan war veteran Cormoran Strike, now a private detective, is hired to prove that a supermodel's fatal fall was not the suicide it was officially declared to be but in fact murder.

- *The Dead in Their Vaulted Arches* (2013) by Bradley C. Alan



For her sixth mystery, 11 year old amateur chemist and sleuth Flavia de Luce uses her knowledge of poisons and her indefatigable spirit to solve a dastardly crime in the post-war English countryside while learning new clues about her mother's disappearance.

- *How the Light Gets In* (2014) by Louise Penny



Struggling to maintain the Homicide group during the holiday season in the wake of interdepartmental estrangements, Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the of the Sûreté du Québec quietly investigates the disappearance of a once-famous quintuplet.

- *Mean Streak* (2014) by Sandra Brown



With her husband slow to report her disappearance in the wilderness (they'd been quarreling), pediatrician and marathon runner Emily Charbonneau wakes up the captive of a man who won't reveal his name. But he could be her rescuer; there's something suspicious about that husband.

# Enjoy!