

MYSTERIES- WOMEN SLEUTHS

SERIES

China Bayless Mysteries

Albert, Susan Wittig

China Bayless is a Pecan Springs, Texas herb store owner (and former attorney). Herb lore and a portrait of a modern small town being reshaped by big city refugees are important features of this series.

Thyme of death (1992)
Witches' bane (1993)
Hangman's root (1994)
Rosemary remembered (1995)
Rueful death (1996)
Love lies bleeding (1997)
Chile death (1998)
Lavender lies (1999)
Mistletoe man (2000)
Bloodroot (2001)
Indigo dying (2003)
A dilly of a death (2004)

Meg Langslow

Andrews, Donna

Andrews series provides plenty of laughs for readers who like their mysteries on the cozy side. Meg Langsdowen is a sculptor by trade, but a PI by chance.

"There's a smile on every page and at least one chuckle per chapter." --

Publishers Weekly

Murder, with Peacocks (1999)
Murder With Puffins (2000)
Revenge of the Wrought Iron Flamingos (2001)
Crouching Buzzard, Leaping Loon (2003)
We'll always have parrots (2004)

Turing Hopper

Andrews, Donna

Turning is a true original – a mainframe computer with a mind like Miss Marple and hardware that hides a spiciously human heart.

You've Got Murder (2002)
Click Here for Murder (2003)

Carlotta Carlyle

Barnes, Linda

Six-foot-one red-head Carlotta Carlyle, former Boston cop and sometimes cabbie, sets herself up as an independent private investigator ready to deal with anything from lost pets to grand larceny.

Trouble of fools (1987)
Snake tattoo (1989)
Coyote (1990)
Steel guitar (1991)
Snapshot (1993)
Hardware (1995)
Cold case (1997)
Flashpoint (1999)
Big dig (2002)

Anna Pigeon

Barr, Nevada

All of Nevada Barr's novels center around Anna Pigeon, an independent, tough-talking, wine-drinking law enforcement park ranger.

Track of the Cat (1993)
A Superior Death (1994)
Ill Wind (1995)
Firestorm (1996)
Endangered Species (1997)
Blind Descent (1998)
Liberty Falling (1999)
Deep South (2000)
Blood Lure (2001)
Hunting Season (2002)
Flashback (2003)
High Country (2004)

Jane Austen Mysteries

Barron, Stephanie

Stephanie Barron is the pseudonym of former C.I.A. intelligence analyst Francine Mathews. This mystery series features Jane Austen as detective in Regency England.

Jane and the Unpleasantness at Scargrave Manor (1996)

Jane and the Man of the Cloth (1997)
Jane and the Wandering Eye (1998)
Jane and the Genius of the Place (2000)
Jane and the Stillroom Maid (2000)
Jane and the Prisoner of Wool House (2001)
Jane and the Ghosts of Netley (2003)

Sierra Lavotini Mysteries

Bartholomew, Nancy

Exotic dancer Sierra Lavotini is the most popular stripper at The Tiffany Club in Panama City, Florida. Her life is often complicated by enough relatives, friends, murder and mayhem to satisfy even the fans of Janet Evanovich's Stephanie Plum series.

The Miracle Strip (1998)
Drag Strip (1999)
Film Strip (2000)
Strip Poker (2001)

Maggie Reid series

Bartholomew, Nancy

Maggie Reid encompasses the qualities of a country and western singer and the tenacity of Miss Maple. Maggie has a knack for finding trouble even if on the surface things are calm and serene. A fast-paced romp on the wild side.

Your Cheatin' Heart (2000)
Stand By Your Man (2001)

Agatha Raisin

Beaton, MC

At the core of every village cozy is a pinch of arsenic. In the Agatha Raisin Cotswold cozies, the arsenic is Agatha herself, a pushy, whiny, unsociable, self-pitying sort who investigates murders in the tiny village of Carsely the way other women might shop, as a distraction from boredom.

Agatha Raisin and the Quiche of Death (1992)
Agatha Raisin and the Vicious Vet (1993)
Agatha Raisin and the Potted Gardener (1994) (Newport)
Agatha Raisin and the Walkers of Dembley (1995)
Agatha Raisin and the Murderous Marriage (1996) (Havelock, Vanceboro)
Agatha Raisin and the Terrible Tourist (1997)
Agatha Raisin and the Wellspring of Death (1998)
Agatha Raisin and the Wizard of Evesham (1999)
Agatha Raisin and the witch of Wyckhadden (1999)

Agatha Raisin and the Fairies of Fryfam (2000)
Agatha Raisin and the Love from Hell (2001)
Agatha Raisin and the Day the Floods Came (2002) (Vanceboro)
Agatha Raisin and the Haunted House (2003) (Vanceboro & Newport)
Agatha Raisin and the Case of the Curious Curate (2003)

Melanie Travis Mysteries

Berenson, Lauren

Melanie Travis is a special education teacher, divorced mother, and new owner of a standard poodle. Aided by her Aunt Peg, Melanie enters the dog show world. These lighthearted adventures will charm dog fanciers and cozy fans.

A Pedigree to Die For (1995)
Underdog (1996)
Dog Eat Dog (1996)
Hair of the Dog (1997)
Watchdog (1998)
Hush Puppy (1999)
Unleashed (2000)
Once Bitten (2001)
Hot Dog (2002)
Best in Show (2003)

Marti MacAlister Mysteries

Bland, Eleanor Taylor

Marti MacAlister, mystery fiction's first black woman homicide detective, is a former Chicago cop who joins the suburban Lincoln Prairie police force after her husband dies.

Dead time (1992)
Slow burn (1993)
Gone quiet (1994)
Done wrong (1995)
Keep still (1996)
See no evil (1998)
Tell no tales (1999)
Scream in silence (2000)
Whispers in the dark (2001)
Windy city dying (2002)
Fatal remains (2003)

Britt Montero

Buchanan, Edna

Britt Montero is a reporter for the Miami Herald; she covers crimes on the blood-stained streets of Miami.

Contents under pressure (1992)

Miami, it's murder (1994)

Suitable for framing (1995)

Act of betrayal (1996)

Margin of error (1997)

Garden of evil (1999)

You only die twice (2001)

The ice maiden (2002)

Ursula Blanchard at Queen Elizabeth I court

Buckley, Fiona

Set in 16th Century England these mysteries feature Ursula Blanchard, a young widow who is one Elizabeth I's Ladies of the Presence Chamber. An eye for suspicious dealings has gained her an additional income as a spy for the Queen.

To shield the Queen (1997)

Doublet affair (1998)

Queen's ransom (2000)

To ruin a queen (2000)

Queen of ambition (2002)

Pawn for a Queen (2002)

The fugitive queen (2003)

Irene Kelly Mysteries

Burke, Jan

Irene Kelly is a news reporter in southern California and can't stay away from solving crimes. Detective Frank Harriman, Irene's on-again, off-again love interest has become an integral part of the series.

Goodnight, Irene (1993)

Sweet Dreams, Irene (1994)

Dear Irene (1995)

Remember Me, Irene (1996)

Hocus (1997)

Liar (1998)

Bones (1999)

Flight (2000)

Ellie Haskell

Cannell, Dorothy

Ellie Haskell, heiress and mother of twins, lives in England with her husband Ben, who she met through an escort service.

Thin woman (1984)

Widow's club (1988)

Mum's the word (1990)

Femme fatal (1992)

How to murder your mother-in-law (1994)

How to murder the man of your dreams (1996)

Spring cleaning murders (1998)

The trouble with Harriet (1999)

Bridesmaids revisited (2000)

The importance of being Ernestine (2002)

Nanette Hayes

Carter, Charlotte

Nanette Hayes is "young, tall, black, beautiful and defiantly bald." She's armed with attitude and a master's degree in French. She plays tenor sax on Manhattan street corners.

Rhode Island Red (1999)

Coq au Vin (1999)

Drumsticks (2000)

Charlie Plato

Chittenden, Margaret

This San Francisco mystery series features 30-something, divorcee Charlie Plato and sexy television actor Zack Hunter.

Dying to Sing (1996)

Dead Men Don't Dance (1997)

Dead Bead and Deadly (1998)

Don't Forget to Die (1999)

Dying to See You (2000)

Jane Jeffrey Mysteries

Churchill, Jill

This series features Jane Jeffrey, a young suburban "Jane Marple" with kids, a dog and a busy life as a single mother.

Grime and Punishment (1989)

Farewell to Yarns (1991)

Quiche Before Dying (1993)

The Class Menagerie (1994)

A Knife to Remember (1994)
From Here to Paternity (1995)
Silence of the Hams (1996)
War and Peas (1996)
Fear of Frying (1997)
The Merchant of Menace (1998)
A Groom with a View (1999)
Mulch Ado About Nothing (2000)
House of seven Mabels (2002)
Bell, book, and scandal (2003)

Grace and favor series

Churchill, Jill

Churchill's new series is set in the Hudson River Valley in the 1930's and stars a sister and brother team of inn owners, Lily and Robert Brewster.

Anything goes (1999)
In the still of the night (2000)
Someone to watch over me (2001)
It had to be you (2004)

Dog lover's

Conant, Susan

30-year-old Holly Winter is a feisty columnist for Dog's Life Magazine, living in Cambridge, MA. She stumbles across murder in the course of training and showing her Alaskan Malamute dogs.

A New Leash on Death (1990)
Dead and Doggone (1990)
A Bite of Death (1991)
Paws Before Dying (1991)
Gone to the Dogs (1992)
Bloodlines (1992)
Ruffly Speaking (1994)
Black Ribbon (1994)
Stud Rites (?)
Animal Appetite (1997)
The Barker Street Regulars (1998)
Evil Breeding (1999)
Creature Discomforts (2000)
Wicked flea (2002)
Dogfather (2003)
Bride and Groom (2004)

Lindsay Chamberlain Mysteries

Connor, Beverly

Dr. Lindsay Chamberlain is a renowned forensic archaeologist and a professor at the University of Georgia who specializes in bone identification.

A Rumor of Bones (1996)

Questionable Remains (1997)

Dressed to Die (1998)

Skeleton Crew (1999)

Airtight Case (2000)

Willow King Mysteries

Cooper, Natasha

Amateur sleuth Willow King leads a double life. Tues.-Thurs. she's a civil service administrator in the Dept. of Old Age Pensions, the rest of the week she works as romance author Cressida Woodruffe. Set in London.

A Common Life (1990)

Poison Flowers (1991)

Bloody Roses (1993)

Bitter Herbs ()

Rotten Apples (1995)

Drowning Pool (1997)

Sour Grapes (1998)

Trish Maguire Mysteries

Cooper, Natasha

As an offshoot of the King series, Cooper began a series with a slightly darker edge, featuring barrister Trish Maguire.

Creeping Ivy (1998)

Fault Lines (2000)

Prey to All (2000)

Out of the Dark (2002)

Place of Safety (2003)

Kay Scarpetta Mysteries

Cornwell, Patricia D.

Kay Scarpetta, Chief Medical Examiner in Virginia, is able to sort out answers from available forensic evidence.

Postmortem (1990)

Body of Evidence (1990)

All that Remains (1992)

Cruel and Unusual (1993)

The Body Farm (1994)
From Potter's Field (1995)
Cause of Death (1996)
Unnatural Exposure (1997)
Point of Origin (1998)
Scarpetta's Winter Table (short stories) (1998)
Black notice (1999)
Last precinct (2000)
Blow Fly (2003)

Duncan Kincaid & Gemma James series

Crombie, Deborah

Detective Sergeant Gemma James and Superintendent Duncan Kincaid are English police detectives. Gemma is a young divorced single mother and she develops a complicated relationship with Duncan.

A Share in Death (1993)
All Shall Be Well (1994)
Leave the Grave Green (1996)
Mourn Not Your Dead (1996)
Dreaming of the Bones (1997)
Kissed a Sad Goodbye (1999)
A Finer End (2001)
And Justice There is None (2002)
Now You May Weep (2003)

Kate Fansler

Cross, Amanda

Kate Fansler, professor of literature at a New York City university, is well-to-do, well-dressed, and well-educated. The ultimate clue for this sleuth is often a literary one.

In the Last Analysis (1964)
The James Joyce Murder (1982)
Poetic Justice (1970)
The Theban Mysteries (1971)
The Question of Max (1976)
Death in a Tenured Position (1981)
Sweet Death, Kind Death (1984)
No Word from Winifred (1986)
A Trap for Fools (1989)
The Players Come Again (1990)
Imperfect Spy (1995)
Puzzled Heart (1998)

Honest Doubt (2000)
The Edge of Doom (2002)

Gail McCarthy Mysteries

Crum, Laura

Laura Crum has been a regular competitor on the cutting and team-roping circuit, experience she has put to use in her mystery series featuring Gail McCarthy, a Santa Cruz horse veterinarian.

Cutter (1994)
Hoofprints (1996)
Roughstock (1997)
Roped (1998)
Slickrock (1999)
Breakaway (2001)
Hayburner (2003)

Bed and Breakfast Mysteries

Daheim, Mary

Former journalist Mary Daheim writes two mystery series, the first of which focuses on a Seattle bed and breakfast run by Judith McMonigle Flynn.

Just Desserts
Fowl Prey (1991)
Holy Terrors (1992)
Dune to Death (1993)
Bantam of the Opera (1993)
Fit of Tempera (1994)
Major Vices (1995)
Murder, My Suite (1995)
Auntie Mayhem (1996)
Nutty as a Fruitcake (1996)
September Mourn (1997)
Wed and Buried (1998)
Snow Place to Die (1998)
Legs Benedict (1999)
Creeps Suzete (2000)
Streetcar Named Expire (2001)
Suture Self (2001)
Silver Scream (2002)

Emma Lord Myeries

Daheim, Mary

Emma Lord, a small-town newspaper owner-editor in Alpine, Washington.

The Alpine Advocate (1992)
The Alpine Betrayal (1993)
The Alpine Christmas (1993)
The Alpine Decoy (1994)
The Alpine Escape (1995)
The Alpine Fury (1995)
The Alpine Gamble (1996)
The Alpine Hero (1996)
The Alpine Icon (1997)
The Alpine Journey (1998)
The Alpine Kindred (1999)
The Alpine Legacy (1999)
The Alpine Menace (2000)
The Alpine Nemesis (2001)
The Alpine Obituary (2002)

Cat Marsala Mysteries

D'Amato, Barbara

A freelance magazine journalist based in Chicago, Catherine (Cat) Marsala has probed complexities of difficult issues before, but murders test all her intuitive skills.

Hardball (1990)
Hard Tack (1991)
Hard Luck (1992)
Hard Women (1993)
Hard Case (1994)
Hard Christmas (1995)
Hard Bargain (1997)
Hard Evidence (1999)
Hard Road (2001)

Dorothy Martin Mysteries

Dams, Jeanne

Widowed American Dorothy Martin stumbles over a dead canon in Dams' first mystery. Her adventures escalate from there.

The Body in the Transept (1995)
Trouble in the Town Hall (1996)
Holy Terror in the Hebrides (1997)
Malice in Miniature (1998)
The Victim in Victoria Station (1999)
Killing Cassiday (2000)

To Perish in Penzance (2001)
Sins Out of School (2003)

Hilda Johansson Mysteries

Dams, Jeanne

Hilda Johansson is a turn-of-the-century Swedish housemaid in South Bend, Indiana.

Death in Lacquer Red (1999)
A Red, White and Blue Murder (2000)
Green Grow the Victims (2001)

Culinary series - Goldy Bear Mysteries

Davidson, Diane Mott

Gertrude "Goldy" Bear is a caterer in Aspen Meadow, Colorado. Mouth-watering recipes and food descriptions are liberally mixed into the plot. She works closely with officer Tom Schulz; eventually they marry.

Catering to nobody (1990)
Dying for chocolate (1992)
Cereal murders (1993)
The last suppers (1994)
Killer pancake (1995)
Main corpse (1996)
Grilling season (1997)
Prime cut (1998)
Tough cookie (2000)
Sticks and scones (2001)
Chopping spree (2002)

Nicolette Scott Mysteries

Davis, Val

Nicolette Scott, an archaeologist in the southwestern USA faces danger and adventure in this action-packed series.

Track of the Scorpion (1996)
Flight of the Serpent (1998)
Wake of the Hornet (2000)
Return of the Spanish Lady (2001)
Thread of the Spider (2002)

Fremont Jones Mysteries

Day, Dianne

Caroline Fremont Jones is the owner of a typewriting service in San Francisco at the turn of the century . Besides typing works for ten cents a page, she solves mysteries, and is also involved in the great fire.

Strange Files of Fremont Jones (1995)

Fire and Fog (1996)

The Bohemian Murders (1997)

Emperor Norton's Ghost (1998)

Death Train to Boston (1999)

Beacon Street Mourning (2000)

Karen Pelletier Mysteries

Dobson, Joanne

English professor and literary sleuth Karen Pelletier teaches at Enfield College in Massachusetts.

Quieter than Sleep (1997)

The Northbury Papers (1998)

The Raven and the Nightingale (1999)

Cold and Pure and Very Dead (2000)

Maltese Manuscript (2003)

Daisy Dalrymple Mysteries

Dunn, Carola

These 1920's mysteries are a cozy look at post World War I Britain. The Honourable Daisy Dalrymple writes magazine features that frequently get her involved in murder.

Death at Wentwate Court (1994)

The Winter Garden Mystery (1995)

Requiem for a Mezzo (1996)

Murder on the Flying Scotsman (1997)

Damsel in Distress (1997)

Dead in the Water (1998)

Styx and Stones (1999)

Rattle His Bones (2000)

To Davy Jones Below (2001)

Mistletoe and Murder (2002)

Case of the Murdered Muckraker (2002)

Die Laughing (2003)

Mali Anderson Mysteries

Edwards, Grace

Mali Anderson is a 31-year-old ex-cop from Harlem. She lives with her jazz musician father, who is helping her raise her orphaned nephew.

If I Should Die (1997)

A Toast Before Dying (1998)

Do or Die

No Time to Die (1999)

Lady Susanna Appleton Mysteries

Emerson, Kathy Lynn

Set in the 16th century these historical mysteries feature Lady Susanna Appleton, an herbalist.

Face Down in the Marrow Bone Pie (1997)

Face Down Upon an Herbal (1998)

Face Down Among the Winchester Geese (1999)

Face Down Beneath the Eleanor Cross (2000)

Face Down Under the Wych Elm (2000)

Face Down Before the Rebel Hooves (2001)

Face Down Across the Western Sea (2002)

Stephanie Plum

Evanovich, Janet

The gutsy heroine is Stephanie Plum of Trenton, N.J., a recently laid-off lingerie buyer who has no job, no car and no furniture. She does have a hamster, a deranged grandmother, two caring parents and several pairs of biking shorts and sports bras. Finding work with her cousin Vinnie, she becomes a bond hunter and scrounges money enough to buy a gun, a Chevy Nova and some Mace.

One For the Money (1995)

Two For the Dough (1996)

Three to Get Deadly (1997)

Four to Score (1998)

High Five (1999)

Hot Six (2000)

Seven Up (2001)

Hard Eight (2002)

Visions of Sugar Plums (holiday novella) (2002)

To the Nines (2003)

Ten Big Ones (June 22, 2004)

Benni Harper Mysteries

Fowler, Earlene

Benni Harper is director of a folk art museum in mythical San Celina on California's central coast. Benni often clashes with police chief Gabe Ortiz, with whom she is also involved with romantically.

Fools Puzzle (1994)
Irish Chain (1995)
Kansas Troubles (1996)
Goose in the Pond (1997)
Dove in the Window (1998)
Mariner's Compass (1999)
Seven Sisters (2000)
Arkansas Traveler (2001)
Steps to the Altar (2002)
Sunshine and Shadow (2003)
Broken Dishes (2004)

Lupe Solano Mysteries

Garcia-Aguilera, Carolina

Private eye Lupe Solano is the daughter of a wealthy Cuban-American family. She's brash, smart and proud of her Cuban heritage.

Bloody Waters (1996)
Bloody Shame (1997)
Bloody Secrets (1998)
A Miracle in Paradise (1999)
Havana Heat (1999)
Bitter Sugar (2001)

Southern Sisters Series

George, Anne

Y'all want lots of good laughs with a grisly murder and some clever detecting thrown in? Join the sexagenarian southern sisters, Mary Alice, a six-footer, and Patricia Anne, a size-six petite.

What a pair! Sixtysomething Patricia Anne and Mary Alice may be opposites in many ways, but they are rich in family ties, Sunday suppers, and southern warmth.

Murder on A Girls' Night Out (1996)
Murder on A Bad Hair Day (1996)
Murder Runs in the Family (1997)
Murder Makes Waves (1997)
Murder Gets A Life (1998)
Murder Shoots the Bull (1999)

Murder Carries A Torch (2000)
Murder Boogies with Elvis (2001)

Mrs. Pollifax Mysteries

Gilman, Dorothy

Mrs. Emily Pollifax has been a widow for eight years; her grown children and grandchildren live far away. Bored with her garden club meetings, she concludes that it's time to do what she's always wanted to do: become a spy. Pragmatic and curious, with an unshakable knowledge of human nature, Mrs. Pollifax is a surprisingly successful secret agent.

Unexpected Mrs. Pollifax (1966)
Amazing Mrs. Pollifax (1970)
Elusive Mrs. Pollifax (1971)
A palm for Mrs. Pollifax (1973)
Mrs. Pollifax on safari (1977)
Mrs. Pollifax on the China Station (1983)
Mrs. Pollifax and the Hong Kong Buddha (1985)
Mrs. Pollifax and the golden triangle (1988)
Mrs. Pollifax and the whirling dervish (1990)
Mrs. Pollifax and the second thief (1993)
Mrs. Pollifax pursued (1995)
Mrs. Pollifax and the lion killer (1996)
Mrs. Pollifax, innocent tourist (1997)
Mrs. Pollifax unveiled (2000)

Kate Jasper Mysteries

Girdner, Jacqueline

Kate Jasper owns Jest Gifts, a company that makes humorous mail order gifts. Kate lives in Marin County and finds crime among California's New Age populace.

Adjusted to Death (1991)
The Last Resort (1991)
Murder Most Mellow (1992)
Fat-Free and Fatal (1993)
Tea-Totally Dead (1994)
A Stiff Critique (1995)
Most Likely to Die (1996)
A Cry for Self-Help (1997)
Death Hits the Fan (1998)
Murder on the Astral Plane (1999)
Murder, My Deer (2000)
A Sensitive Kind of Murder (2002)

April Woo Mysteries

Glass, Leslie

April Woo, a NYPD detective has an easier time dealing with the stresses of the job than she does dealing with her mother, Skinny Dragon.

Burning Time (1993)

Hanging Time (1995)

Loving Time (1996)

Judging Time (1998)

Stealing Time (1999)

Tracking Time (2000)

Silent Bride (2002)

Kinsey Millhone Mysteries

Grafton, Sue

Kinsey Millhone, 32, twice divorced, ex-cop and ex-investigator for California Fidelity Insurance Company, is now a private investigator in Santa Rosa.

A is for alibi (1982)

B is for burglar (1985)

C is for corpse (1986)

D is for deadbeat (1987)

E is for evidence (1988)

F is for fugitive (1989)

G is for gumshoe (1990)

H is for homicide (1991)

I is for innocent (1992)

J is for judgment (1993)

K is for killer (1994)

L is for lawless (1995)

M is for malice (1996)

N is for noose (1998)

O is for outlaw (1999)

P is for peril (2001)

Q is for quarry (2002)

R is for Ricochet (Oct., 2004)

Elizabeth I Mysteries

Harper, Karen

Many books feature an Elizabethan setting, only this one features Elizabeth I as the investigator.

The Poyson Garden (1999)
The Tidal Poole (2000)
The Twylight Tower (2001)
The Queene's Cure (2002)
The Thorne Maze (2003)
The Queene's Christmas (2003)

Aurora Teagarden Mysteries

Harris, Charlaine

Harris' first series features 20-something librarian Aurora (Roe) Teagarden and are set in Georgia.

Real Murders (1990)
A Bone to Pick (1992)
Three Bedrooms, One Corpse (1994)
The Julius House (1995)
Dead Over Heels (1996)
A Fool and His Honey (1999)
Last Scene Alive (2002)
Poppy Gone to Death (2003)

Lily Bard Mysteries

Harris, Charlaine

The second series by this author has a slightly darker tone and features rape survivor, Lily Bard who moved to Shakespeare, Arkansas and runs a cleaning business.

Shakespeare's Landlord (1996)
Shakespeare's Champion (1997)
Shakespeare's Christmas (1998)
Shakespeare's Trollop (2000)
Shakespeare's Counselor (2001)

Death On Demand Series

Hart, Carolyn

Broward's Rock, one of South Carolina's barrier islands, is the home of Annie Darling's Death on Demand Bookstore. Real-life death--the unnatural kind--comes to Broward's Rock with remarkable frequency, and Annie, along with husband Max, is usually the one who figures out what happened.

Death on Demand (1987)
Design for Murder (1988)
Something Wicked (1988)
Honeymoon With Murder (1989)
A Little Class on Murder (1989)
Deadly Valentine (1990)
The Christie Caper (1991)
Southern Ghost (1992)
Mint Julep Murder (1995)
Yankee Doodle Dead (1998)
White Elephant Dead (1999)
Sugarplum Dead (2000)
April Fool Dead (2002)
Engaged to Die (2003)
Murder Walks the Plank (2004)

Henry O. Series

Hart, Carolyn

This series has a deeper and darker emotional texture than Hart's more lively and lighthearted Death on Demand series, but her fans will enjoy the complex plot, local color and vivid characters.

Dead Man's Island (1993)
Scandal in Fair Haven (1994)
Death in Lovers' Lane (1997)
Death in Paradise (1998)
Death on the River Walk (1999)
Resort to Murder (2001)

Jane Lawless mysteries

Hart, Ellen

Jane Lawless is a Minneapolis restaurant owner and her friend is theatrical director Cordelia Thorn. Books include religious and psychological themes.

Hallowed Murder (1989)
Vital Lies (1991)
Stage Fright (1992)

Killing Cure (1993)
Small Sacrifice (1994)
Faint Praise (1995)
Robber's Wine (1996)
Wicked Games (1998)
Hunting the Witch (1999)
Merchant of Venus (2001)
Immaculate Midnight (2002)
Intimate Ghost (2004)

Sophie Greenway mysteries

Hart, Ellen

Sophie Greenway also lives and works in Minneapolis. She's a magazine editor, food critic and hotel owner.

This Little Piggy Went to Murder (1994)
For Every Evil (1995)
The Oldes Sin (1996)
Murder in the Air (1997)
Slice and Dice (2000)
Dial M for Meat Loaf (2001)

Kate Milholland mysteries

Hartzmark, Gini

Though Katherine Prescott Milholland, a blue-blood Chicago attorney specializes in mergers and acquisitions, she often finds her cases lead to murder.

Principal Defense (1992)
Final Option (1994)
Bitter Business (1995)
Fatal Reaction (1998)
Rough Trade (1999)
Dead Certain (2000)

Arly Hanks mysteries

Hess, Joan

Arly Hanks is the first woman sheriff of her hometown, Maggody, Arkansas (population 852). Maggody seemed like a quiet place to recuperate from a disastrous marriage in New York City.

Malice in Maggody (1987)
Mischief iIn Maggody (1988)
Much Ado in Maggody (1989)
Madness in Maggody (1991)

Mortal Remains in Maggody (1991)
Maggody in Manhattan (1992)
O Little Town of Maggody (1993)
Martians in Maggody (1994)
Miracles in Maggody (1995)
Maggody Militia (1997)
Misery Loves Maggody (1998)
Murder at Maggody.com (2000)
Maggody and the Moonbeams (2001)
Muletrain to Maggody (2004)

Claire Malloy mysteries

Hess, Joan

Claire Malloy is the owner of the Book Depot near Farber College. Claire and her teenage daughter Caron solve crimes in a lively and entertaining manner.

Strangled Prose (1986)
The Murder at the Murder at Mimosa Inn (1986)
Dear Miss Demeanor (1987)
A Really Cute Corpse (1988)
A Diet to Die For (1989)
Roll Over and Play Dead (1991)
Death by the Light of the Moon (1992)
Poisoned Pins (1993)
Tickled to Death (1994)
Busy Bodies (1995)
Closely Akin to Murder (1996)
Holly, Jolly Murder (1997)
A Conventional Corpse (2000)
Out on a Limb (2002)

Sonora Blair

Hightower, Lynn

Sonora Blair is a homicide detective in Cincinnati, Ohio and a single mother.

Flashpoint (1995)
Eyeshot (1997)
No Good Deed (1998)
The Debt Collector (2000)

Anneke Haagen mysteries

Holtzer, Susan

Anneke Haagen is a divorced computer programmer who finds herself solving murders with the help of local cop, and former pro linebacker, Karl Genesco in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Something to Kill For (1995)
Curly Smoke (1995)
Bleeding Maize and Blue (1996)
Black Diamond (1997)
The Silly Season (2000)
The Wedding Game (2000)
Better Than Sex (2001)

Joanna Brady

Jance, J A

Sheriff Joanna Brady, elected sheriff of Cochise County, Arizona after her husband is killed, is a single parent and an inexperienced police officer who learns on the job.

Desert heat (1993)
Tombstone courage (1994)
Shoot, don't shoot (1995)
Dead to rights (1996)
Skeleton Canyon (1997)
Rattlesnake crossing (1998)
Outlaw mountain (1999)
Devil's Claw (2000)
Paradise Lost (2001)
Partner in crime (2002)
Exit Wounds (2003)

Peter and Rina Decker mysteries

Kellerman, Faye

Rina Lazarus, a widow with two young sons, assists police detective Peter Decker in solving crimes in the orthodox Jewish community to which she belongs.

Ritual Bath (1986)
Sacred and Profane (1987)
Milk and Honey (1990)
Day of Atonement (1991)
False Prophet (1992)
Grievous Sin (1993)
Sanctuary (1994)
Justice (1995)
Prayers for the Dead (1996)
A Serpent's Tooth

Jupiter's Bones
Stalker (2000)
The Forgotten (2001)
Stone Kiss (2002)
Street Dreams (2003)

Kate Martinelli

King, Laurie

Kate Martinelli finds herself with a promotion to detective in the San Francisco Police Department and needs to prove herself..

A Grave Talent (1993)
To Play The Fool (1995)
With Child (1996)
Night Work (2000)

Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes mysteries

King, Laurie

Mary Russell, first a teenage student of Sherlock Holmes and later his partner in solving crimes, reports on cases that the retired beekeeper Holmes takes on.

Beekeeper's Apprentice (1994)
A Monstrous Regiment Of Women (1995)
A Letter Of Mary (1997)
The Moor (1998)
O Jerusalem (1999)
Justice Hall (2002)
The Game (2004)

Jessie Drake mysteries

Krich, Rochelle Majer

Jessie Drake is a L.A.P.D homicide detective who deals with cases that frequently straddle moral boundaries, such as abortion and the Holocaust.

Fair Game (1993)
Angel of Death (1994)
Blood Money (1999)
Dead Air (2000)
Shadows of Sin (2001)

Jo Beth Sidden mysteries

Lanier, Virginia

Bloodhound trainer Jo-Beth Sidden is a chain-smoking, good old Georgia gal with a special talent for search-and-rescue missions.

Death in Bloodhound Red (1995)
The House on Bloodhound Lane (1996)
A Brace of Bloodhounds (1997)
Blind Bloodhound Justice (1998)
Ten Little Bloodhounds (1999)
A Bloodhound to Die For (2003)

Hanna Trevor mysteries

Lawrence, Margaret

Set in post Revolutionary War Maine, this series features widowed Hannah Trevor who works as a midwife.

Hearts and Bones (1996)
Blood Red Roses (1997)
The Burning Bride (1998)
The Iceweaver (2000)

Elizabeth Chase mysteries

Lawrence, Martha

Dr. Elizabeth Chase is a parapsychologist/private investigator in San Diego.

Murder in Scorpio (1995)
The Cold Heart of Capricorn (1997)
Aquarius Descending (1999)
Pisces Rising (2000)
Ashes of Aries (2001)

Tess Monaghan mysteries

Lippman, Laura

Tess Monaghan is a newspaper reporter turned P.I in Baltimore, Maryland.

Baltimore Blues (1997)
Charm City (1997)
Butchers Hill (1998)
In Big Trouble (1999)
The Sugar House (2000)
In a Strange City (2001)
The Last Place (2002)

Sylvia Strange mysteries

Lovett , Sarah

Sante Fe forensic psychologist Dr. Sylvia Strange works on cases that others won't touch.

Dangerous Attachments (1995)

Acquired Motives (1996)

A Desperate Silence (1998)

Dante's Inferno (2001)

Dark Alchemy (2003)

Deborah Knott – (North Carolina)

Maron, Margaret

Lawyer and eventually Judge Deborah Knott lives in the tobacco country of Colleton County, North Carolina. She is part of a large Southern family and is at home with the rich landscape and people of the New South.

Bootlegger's daughter (1992)

Southern discomfort (1993)

Shooting at loons (1994)

Up jumps the devil (1996)

Killer market (1997)

Home fires (1998)

Storm track (2000)

Uncommon clay (2001)

Slow dollar (2002)

Sigrid Harald

Maron, Margaret

Sigrid Harald is a New York police officer in a series of police procedurals.

One coffee with (1981)

Death of a butterfly (1984)

Death in blue folders (1985)

Bloody kin (1985)

The right jack (1987)

Baby doll games (1988)

Corpus Christmas (1989)

Past imperfect (1991)

Fugitive colors (1995)

Rei Shimura mysteries

Massey, Sujata

These mysteries set in modern Japan feature the first-person voice of 27-year-old Rei Shimura, a California raised Japanese American English teacher and antiques dealer.

The Salaryman's Wife (1997)

Zen Attitude (1998)

The Flower Master (1999)

The Floating Girl (2000)

The Bride's Kimono (2001)

Samurai Daughter (2003)

Merry Folger/ Nantucket Island Mysteries

Mathews, Francine

Meredith (Merry) Folger is a police detective in Nantucket, Massachusetts.

Death in the Off-Season (1994)

Death in Rough Water (1995)

Death in a Mood Indigo (1997)

Death in a Cold Hard Light (1998)

Dorie Lennox mysteries

McClendon, Lise

Lisa McClendon takes the reader to WWII era Kansas City and introduces loner, apprentice P.I. Dorie Lennox.

One o'Clock Jump (2001)

Sweet and Lowdown (2002)

Elizabeth MacPherson Series

McCrum, Sharyn

These are wonderfully quirky tales about a woman named Elizabeth MacPherson. Elizabeth is funny and charming and a student of forensic anthropology, then a field exclusively for women. Elizabeth's adventures are made more entertaining by appearances from her extended, Southern family, most of whom are eccentric, some of whom are downright mad.

Sick of shadows (1978)
Lovely in her bones (1990)
Highland laddie gone (1986)
Paying the piper (1988)
Windsor knot (1990)
Missing Susan (1991)
MacPherson's lament (1992)
If I'd killed him when I met him (1995)
PMS Outlaw (2000)

Savannah Reid mysteries

McKevett, G. A.

This Southern California series stars Detective Sergeant Savannah Reid, dropped from the San Carmelita Police Dept. for being overweight. The Georgia-born karate expert promptly sets up the Moonlight Detective Agency.

Just Desserts (1995)
Bitter Sweets (1996)
Killer Calories (1997)
Cooked Goose (1998)
Sugar and Spite (2000)
Sour Grapes (2001)
Peaches and Screams (2002)
Death by Chocolate (2003)

Civil War mysteries

McMillan, Ann

Narcissa Power, a young widow and Judah Daniel, a freedwoman who is also the local herbalist work together at the time of the Civil War in Virginia.

Dead March (1998)
Angel Trumpet (1999)
Civil Blood (2001)

Ariel Gold mysteries

Mercer, Judy

The series opener features television newsmagazine producer Ariel Gold. When she wakes up bruised, bloodied and suffereing from amnesia, Ariel assumes the life of the woman whose identification she finds strewn around the house.

Fast Forward (1995)
Double Take (1997)
Split Image (1998)
Blind Spot (2000)

Smith and Wetzon mysteries

Meyers, Annette

Smith and Wetzon are headhunters. That's Leslie Wetzon and Xenia Smith and they do their hunting on Wall Street.

The Big Killing (1989)

Tender Death (1990)

The Deadliest Option (1991)

Blood on the Street (1992)

Murder: The Musical (1993)

These Bones Were Made for Dancin' (1995)

The Groaning Board (1997)

Olivia Brown mysteries

Meyers, Annette

The setting for the second series by this author is 1920's Greenwich Village where poet and private-eye-in-training Olivia Brown lives and works.

Free Love (1999)

Murder Me Now (2001)

Gloria Lamerino mysteries

Minichino, Camille

Gloria Lamerino is a 50-something Italian-American physicist in Revere Beach, Massachusetts. Now retired from her position as a professor in Berkeley, she finds her time taken up with murder.

The Hydrogen Murder (1997)

The Helium Murder (1998)

The Lithium Murder (1999)

The Beryllium Murder (2000)

Glynis Tryon/Seneca Falls historical mysteries

Monfredo, Miriam Grace

Glynis Tryon is a librarian in the city of Seneca Falls, NY in the nineteenth century. Her budding feminist ideas get her involved with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and other famous historical figures of that era.

Seneca Falls Inheritance (1992)

North Star Conspiracy (1993)

Blackwater Spirits (1995)

Through a Gold Eagle (1996)

Stalking Horse (1998)

Must the Maiden Die (1999)
Sisters of Cain (2000)
Brothers of Cain (2001)
Children of Cain (2002)

Sharon McCone mysteries

Muller, Marcia

Sharon McCone is a female private eye who bears little resemblance to Miss Jane Marple. This extensive series follows her through many changes in her life and work.

Edwin of the Iron Shoes (1977)
Ask the Cards a Question (1982)
The Cheshire Cat's Eye (1983)
Games to Keep the Dark Away (1984)
Leave a Message for Willie (1984)
Double (1984)
There's Nothing to Be Afraid Of (1985)
Eye of the Storm (1986)
There's Something in a Sunday (1989)
The Shape of Dread (1989)
Trophies and Dead Things (1990)
Where Echoes Live (1991)
Pennies on a Dead Woman's Eyes (1992)
Wolf in the Shadows (1993)
Til the Butchers Cut Him Down (1994)
A Wild and Lonely Place (1995)
The Broken Promise Land (1996)
Both Ends of the Night (1997)
While Other People Sleep (1998)
A Walk Through the Fire (1999)
Listen to the Silence (2000)
Dead Midnight (2002)

V.I. Warshawski series

Paretsky, Sara

Paretsky updates the American private-eye genre by creating a very satisfactory female hero and inventing a strong contemporary plot. V.I. Warshawski is a policeman's daughter, a lawyer who became fed up with the criminal justice system while working as a public defender, and a specialist in financial crime. She has the physical skills to defend herself against attack (in this case, someone tries to blind her with acid), as well as a sassy mouth, a strong sense of values,

and a network of women friends who can supply both specialized knowledge and nurturing support.

Indemnity only (1982)

Deadlock (1984)

Killing orders (1985)

Bitter medicine (1987)

Blood shot (1988)

Burn marks (1990)

Guardian angel (1992)

Tunnel vision (1994)

Windy City blues (stories) (1995)

Hard time (1999)

Total recall (2001)

Blacklist (2003)

Amelia Peabody

Peters, Elizabeth

Wealthy Victorian Englishwoman Amelia Peabody and her husband, archeologist Radcliffe Emerson, solve murders with a plot full of accurate Egyptian lore and history.

Crocodile on the Sandbank (1975)

Curse of the Pharaohs (1981)

The Mummy Case (1985)

Lion in the Valley (1986)

The Deeds of the Disturber (1988)

The Last Camel Died at Noon (1991)

The Snake, The Crocodile and The Dog (1992)

The Hippopotamus Pool (1996)

Seeing a Large Cat (1997)

The Ape Who Guards the Balance (1998)

The Falcon At The Portal (1999)

He Shall Thunder In The Sky (2000)

Lord of the Silent (2001)

The Golden One (2002)

Children of the Storm (2003)

Guardian of the Horizon (2004)

Vicky Bliss series

Peters, Elizabeth

Minnesotan Vicky Bliss, six feet tall and gorgeous, is an art historian with a specialty in medieval Europe who works at the National Museum in Munich. Her work brings her into the realm of brilliant artists and cold-blooded killers, forgers

and art thieves, embroiling her in danger--and with one art thief, in particular--romance.

Street of the Five Moons (1978) (W. Carteret)
Silhouette in Scarlet (1983) (Carteret & W. Carteret)
Trojan Gold (1987)
Night Train to Memphis (1994)
Borrower of the Night (2000)

Jacqueline Kirby series

Peters, Elizabeth

Jacqueline Kirby librarian turned author/detective.

The Seventh Sinner (1986)
The Murders of Richard III (1986)
Die For Love (1987)
Naked Once More (1989)

In Death series/Eve Dallas mysteries

Robb, J. D.

(pseudonym of Nora Roberts) introduces readers to New York City in the near future, 2058 to be exact, as seen through the eyes of Eve Dallas, a detective with the New York City Police and Safety Department.

Naked in Death (1995)
Glory in Death (1995)
Immortal in Death (1996)
Rapture in Death (1996)
Ceremony in Death (1997)
Vengeance in Death (1997)
Holiday in Death (1998)
Conspiracy in Death (1999)
Loyalty in Death (1999)
Witness in Death (2000)
Judgment in Death (2000)
Betrayal in Death (2001)
Reunion in Death (2002)
Purity in Death (2002)
Remember When (2003)
Portrait in Death (2003)
Imitation in Death (2003)
Visions in Death (2004)
Divided in Death (2004)

Amanda Pepper

Roberts, Gillian

Amanda Pepper is a Philadelphia English teacher at Philly Prep. She has something going (she's never exactly sure what) with the reticent C. K. MacKenzie, a Philadelphia cop.

Caught dead in Philadelphia (1987) (Carteret)

Philly stakes (1989) (Carteret)

I'd rather be in Philadelphia (1992)

With friends like these (1993)

How I spent my summer vacation (1994)

In the dead of summer (1995)

Mummers' curse (1996)

Bluest blood (1998)

Adam and evil (1999)

Helen hath no fury (2000)

Claire and Present Danger (2003)

Emma and Billie

Roberts, Gillian

50-year-old no-nonsense Marin County private investigator, Emma Howe, and her new associate, 28-year-old, single mother, Billie August, form an uneasy relationship to solve cases.

Time and trouble (1998) (Vanceboro, Pamlico)

Whatever doesn't kill you (2001) (Vanceboro, Newport)

Lydia Chin and Bill Smith mysteries

Rozan, S.J.

Lydia Chin is a New York City Chinese American private eye, who partners with Bill Smith. The books are written alternately from either Lydia's or Bill's point of view.

China Trade (1994)

Concourse (1995)

Mandarin Plaid (1996)

No Colder Place (1997)

A Bitter Feast (1998)

Stone Quarry (1999)

Reflecting the Sky (2001)

Winter and Night (2002)

Rosato and Associates

Scottoline, Lisa

These are all legal capers featuring the lady lawyers of heroine Bennie Rosato's Philadelphia law firm, Rosato and Associates.

Everywhere that Mary went (1993)
Final appeal (1994) (Pamlico, Bogue Banks)
Running from the law (1995)
Legal tender (1996)
Rough justice (1997)
Mistaken identity (1999)
Moment of truth (2000)
Vendetta defense (2001)
Courting trouble (2002)
Dead Ringer (2003)
Killer Smile (2004)

Munch Mancini crime novels

Seranella, Barbara

Munch Mancini is a 1970s ex-drug addict and jailbird in Los Angeles, California. Working as a mechanic, she does what she can to keep out of trouble.

No Human Involved (1997)
No Offense Intended (1999)
Unwanted Company (2000)
Unfinished Business (2001)
No Man Standing (2002)
Unpaid Dues (2003)
Unwilling Accomplice (2004)

Skip Langdon mysteries

Smith, Julie

Skip Langdon is a 6-ft. tall police detective in New Orleans, Louisiana

New Orleans Mourning (1990)
The Axeman's Jazz (1991)
Jazz Funeral (1993)
New Orleans Beat (1994)
House Of Blues (1995)
Kindness Of Strangers (1996)
Crescent City Kill (1997)
82 Desire (1998)
Mean Woman Blues (2003)

Baroness Pontalba novels

Smith, Julie

In 2001, Ms. Smith spun off a character introduced in *82 Desire*. Talba Wallis is an African-American poet whose day job has her working as an apprentice private investigator.

Louisiana Hotshot (2001)

Louisiana Bigshot (2002)

Kate Shugak

Stabenow, Dana

Kate Shugak is a former investigator for the Anchorage district attorney's office and now lives in the Alaska bush. The series resonates with the exotic Alaskan landscape and the fiercely independent people who live there.

A cold day for murder (1992)

A fatal thaw (1993)

Dead in the water (1993)

A cold-blooded business (1994) (Newport)

Play with fire (1995) (Vanceboro)

Blood will tell (1996)

Breakup (1997) (Carteret)

Killing grounds (1998)

Hunter's moon (1999)

Midnight come again (2000)

Singing of the dead (2000) (Havelock, Vanceboro, Newport)

Fine and bitter snow (2002)

Grave Denied (2003)

Bubbles Yablonsky mysteries

Strohmeier, Sarah

Meet Bubbles Yablonsky, beautician-reporter-sleuth and blazing star of Strohmeier's entertaining, establishment-bashing debut as a mystery writer. Like the mills that gird the book's seen-better-days steel town of Lehigh, Pa., the city is itself a seething cauldron. Battle lines are sharply drawn between the haves and have-nots. Bubbles is hell-bent on getting even with the overlords, especially her former husband, a heel who has gone over to the other side.

Bubbles Unbound (2001)

Bubbles in Trouble (2002)

Bubbles Ablaze (2003)

Celtic mysteries/Sister Fidelma mysteries

Tremayne, Peter

Sister Fidelma is a 7th century Celtic sister and legal advocate in Kildare, Ireland.

Absolution by Murder (1994)
Shroud for the Archbishop (1995)
Suffer Little Children (1995)
Subtle Serpent (1998)
Spider's Web (1997)
Valley of Shadow (1998)
Hemlock at Vespers (short stories) (2000)
The Monk Who Vanished (1999)
Act of Mercy (2001)
Our Lady of Darkness (2002)
Smoke in the Wind (2003)

Callahan Garrity series

Trocheck, Kathy Hogan

Julia Callahan Garrity, an ex-cop, and her mother Edna Mae own House Mouse, a cleaning service. They and their employees simultaneously clean houses and solve crimes in Atlanta.

Every Crooked Nanny (1992)
To Live and Die in Dixie (1993)
Homemade Sin (1994) (Newport)
Happy Never After (1995) (Newport, W. Carteret)
Heart Trouble (1996)
Strange Brew (1997)
Midnight Clear (1998)
Irish Eyes (2000)

Neil Hamel mysteries

Van Gieson, Judith

Neil Hamel is a hard-bitten Albuquerque, New Mexico lawyer with an uninhibited lifestyle. She is a game spirit and meets offbeat and intriguing characters.

North of the Border (1988)
Raptor (1990)
The Other Side of Death (1991)
The Wolf Path (1992)
The Lies that Bind (1993)
Parrot Blues (1995)
Hotshots (1996)
Ditch Rider (1998)

Susan Wren mysteries

Weir, Charlene

Small-town police chief Susan Wren has to adjust to having gone from being a detective in California to being the head of a the police dept. in Hampstead, Kansas.

The Winter Widow (1992)

Consider the Crows (1993)

Family Practice (1995)

Murder Takes Two (1998)

Murder at the Movies

A Cold Christmas (2001)

Up in Smoke (2003)

Tamara Hayle mysteries

Wesley, Valerie Wilson

Tamara Hayle is a black ex-cop, struggling P.I., and single parent in Newark, New Jersey.

When Death Comes Stealing (1994)

Devil's Gonna Get Him (1995)

Where Evil Sleeps (1996)

No Hiding Place (1997)

Easier to Kill (1998)

The Devil Riding (2000)