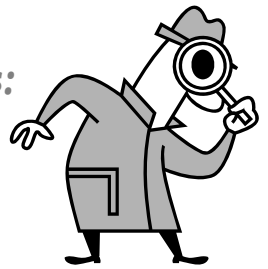


Timeless investigations: Historical & mystery novels



FIC B812d

Bradshaw, Mel

Death in the age of steam

Toronto in 1856 is industrializing with little time for scruple or sentiment. When Reform politician William Sheridan dies suddenly and his daughter Theresa vanishes, only one man persists in asking questions. A former suitor of Theresa's, bank cashier Isaac Harris has never managed to forget her, despite her marriage to another man. Thrust into the role of amateur detective, he must now struggle with the demands of his job and the shortcomings of the fledgling city police. He also faces the hostility of Theresa's powerful husband, a steamboat and railway magnate. Harris's search takes a grisly turn when, in a valley outside of town, he finds human remains decked in traces of Theresa's finery. If she is dead, who is responsible? And who cares to find out, apart from the man who wooed her too timidly and now would do anything to make up for it? *Death in the Age of Steam* whirls the reader through a richly realized Victorian landscape, from Niagara Falls to Montreal and north as far as the shores of Lake Superior. It's a world at once near and exotic, a world of noise and smoke and churning pistons, but a world still very familiar to denizens of the 21st century.

FIC C563w

Churchill, Jill

Who's sorry now? : a Grace & Favor mystery

Sister and brother duo Lily and Robert Brewster may not have a penny to their names, but at least they're in good company – times couldn't be tougher in the Hudson River Valley during the Great Depression, and even the much-revered chief of police has abandoned his boardinghouse. The poor town has been stripped of its post office, too. Now mail gets dumped off the trains steaming along the Hudson River, and people have to rummage through the bags to find their letters and packages. When a shocked Robert discovers a group of gossiping old women snooping through other people's mail – even threatening to destroy it! – he knows something must be done...

FIC D6553p

Doherty, Paul

The plague lord: bloody murder at the Court of Kublai Khan

Thirteenth-century China. In the streets of Cambaluc, seat of the great Mongol Lord, Kublai Khan, sinister events are unfolding. Members of the Guild of Pourers, the city cleaners, are being picked off one by one in a series of horrific murders. What is the link between these deaths and the reappearance of the Water Lily sect, a secret society dedicated to the service of the Plague Lord, Wen Yi Kwei? With rumors of demonic forces at work, Kublai Khan summons his trusted advisor and friend, the Venetian Marco Polo, to discover the truth. But will he be able to stem the tide of evil before it's too late? And will the Water Lily sect succeed in unleashing the full fury of Wen Yi Kwei, the great baron of Hell...?

FIC D924t

Dunning, John

Two o'clock, eastern wartime

Dunning's [...]book is set in 1942, during the dark early stages of America's involvement in World War II. Writer Jack Dulaney drifts to a New Jersey radio station searching for the person who killed a traveling companion. He obtains a writer's job at the station and soon produces a series of successful radio dramas. Jack also encounters an old girlfriend, Holly Carnahan, who came to the station in search of her missing father. They both discover that Holly's father and Jack's friend were killed by members of a German spy ring, and they themselves are now targets. While this is an old tale[...] the background setting of live radio, plus an interesting mix of characters, makes it an engaging story. [Library Journal]

FIC K163g

Kanon, Joseph

The good German

With World War II finally coming to an ending, Jake Geismar, former Berlin correspondent for CBS, has wangled one of the coveted press slots for the Potsdam Conference. His assignment: a series of articles on the Allied occupation. His personal agenda: to find Lena, the German mistress he left behind at the outbreak of the war. When he stumbles onto a murder – an American soldier has washed up on a lakeshore on the conference grounds – he thinks he has found the key that will unlock his Berlin story.

FIC L581h

Leonard, Elmore

The hot kid

Carl Webster, the hot kid of the marshals service, is polite, respects his elders, and can shoot a man driving away in an Essex at four hundred yards. Carl works out of the Tulsa, Oklahoma, federal courthouse during the 1930s, the period of America's most notorious bank robbers: Dillinger, Baby Face Nelson – those guys...

FIC P413t

Penney, Stef

The tenderness of wolves

As winter tightens its grip on the isolated settlement of Canada's Dove River in 1867, a man is brutally murdered and a 17-year-old boy disappears. Tracks leaving the dead man's cabin head north toward the forest and the tundra beyond. In the wake of such violence, people are drawn to the township – journalists, Hudson Bay Company men, trappers, traders – but do they want to solve the crime or exploit it? One-by-one the assembled searchers set out from Dove River, pursuing the tracks across a desolate landscape home only to wild animals, madmen, and fugitives, variously seeking a murderer, a son, two missing sisters, a forgotten Native culture, and a fortune in stolen furs.

FIC P426w v. 1

Perry, Anne

[World War One. 1], No graves as yet

On a sunny afternoon in late June 1914, Cambridge professor Joseph Reavley learns that his parents have died in an automobile crash. Joseph's brother, an officer in the Intelligence Service, reveals that their father had been en route to London with a mysterious secret document – allegedly possessing the power to disgrace England and destroy the civilized world. Now, that explosive paper has vanished, and Joseph is left to wonder: how had it fallen into the hands of his father, a quiet countryman? But Joseph is soon burdened with a second tragedy: the shocking murder of his most gifted student, who was loved and admired by everyone. Or so it appeared. And as England's seamless peace begins to crack, the distance between the murder of an Austrian archduke and the death of a brilliant student grows shorter every day.

Look also for the sequels: *[World War One. 2], Shoulder the sky ; [World War One. 3], Angels in the gloom ; [World War One. 4], At some disputed barricade ; [World War One. 5], We shall not sleep*

FIC R3149m

Redfern, Elizabeth

The music of the spheres

In the London of 1795, intrigue and death walk the dark streets. England is at war with its neighbor and nemesis, France, and espionage is rampant. It is the job of Jonathan Absey at the Home Office to catch these spies, but his mind is elsewhere, his dreams haunted by the still unsolved murder of his fifteen-year-old daughter in these same streets. Desperately pursuing both investigations, he stumbles across a strange society of astronomers called the Company of Titius who are on a furious search of their own: to discover a long-lost star in the wide black sky. Soon, as he digs into their arcane world, their quest begins to merge with his own, and Absey finds himself discovering more than he had ever imagined – not only about spies and murderers but also about celestial numbers and the making of codes; about passions as unnatural as they are obsessive; and about the bonds of family... and the lengths we will go to preserve them.

FIC S229d v.1

Sansom, C. J.

[Dr. Shardlake mysteries. 1], Dissolution

It is 1537 and Thomas Cromwell has ordered that all monasteries should be dissolved. Cromwell's Commissioner is found dead, his head severed from his body. Dr Shardlake is sent to uncover the truth behind what has happened. His investigation forces him to question everything that he himself believes. A lot a historical facts but still a written in a flowing language: a remarkable novel.

See also the sequels: *[Dr. Shardlake mysteries. 2], Dark fire [Dr. Shardlake mysteries. 3], Sovereign*

ADO FIC U66m v.1

Updale, Eleanor

Montmorency. [1]: thief, liar, gentleman?

When a petty thief falls though a glass roof in his attempt to escape from the police, what should have been the death of him marks the beginning of a while new life. After his broken body is reconstructed by an ambitious young doctor, he is released from prison, and – with the help of Victorian London's extensive sewer system – he becomes the most elusive burglar in the city. "This will appeal the most to older kids who enjoy immersing themselves in historical atmosphere, including adult devotees of Victorian detective fiction." [Booklist]

Look also for the sequels: *[Montmorency. 2], Montmorency on the rocks: doctor, aristocrat, murderer? [Montmorency. 3], Montmorency and the assassin: master criminal spy? ; [Montmorency. 4], Montmorency's revenge*

ADO FIC W365h v. 1

Webb, Catherine

The extraordinary and unusual adventures of Horatio Lyle. [1]

In Victorian London at the height of the industrial revolution, Horatio Lyle is a former Special Constable with a passion for science and invention. He's also an occasional, but reluctant, sleuth. The truth is that he'd rather be in his lab tinkering with dangerous chemicals and odd machinery than running around the cobbled streets of London trying to track down stolen goods. But when Her Majesty's Government calls, Horatio swaps his microscope for a magnifying glass, fills his pockets with things that explode and sallies forth to unravel a mystery of a singularly extraordinary nature.

Thrown together with a reformed pickpocket called Tess, and a rebellious young gentleman called Thomas, Lyle and his faithful hound, Tate, find themselves pursuing an ancient Chinese plate, a conspiracy that reaches to the highest levels of polite society and a dangerous enemy who may not even be human. Solving the crime will be hard enough – surviving would be a bonus... Horatio Lyle is a Sherlock Holmes crossed with Thomas Edison as written by Terry Pratchett: witty & action-packed. This is a young adult book perfect for fans of detective stories, fantasy stories & good old-fashioned adventures... even adults.

Look also for the sequels: *The obsidian dagger: being the further extraordinary adventures of Horatio Lyle*

FIC W752s

Wilson, Robert

A small death in Lisbon

Klaus Felsen, a Berlin businessman forced into the SS against his will in 1941, has been assigned to Portugal. From there, he ships the Germans wolfram (a mineral desperately needed by Hitler's war machine) and, near the end of the war, smuggles Nazi gold in the other direction, ultimately betraying the men who control him. Over 50 years later, Inspector Ze Coelho works to solve the murder of a young girl near Lisbon and in doing so unravels a tangled skein that ties the corruption of the past to the tragedy of the present. [Library journal]

FIC W945b

Wren, Percival Christopher

Beau Geste

Set in the Sahara Desert, *Beau Geste* tells of the romantic adventures of the French Foreign Legion as they battle it out in the constant summer of Northern Africa. First published in 1924, P.C. Wren's period classic draws on his own experience, sharing with readers the true spirit and condition on the Legion. Littered with characters both wild and loyal, this bold tale brings readers into the day to day lives of these soldiers, showing how it felt to be lost with a cause in the middle of the desert.