

Deadly Pleasures

Developed by Karen Klopfer & Jan Resnick

Revised April 2004 by Jan Resnick



Academic Sleuths

Authors Character/series

Gail Bowen – Joanne Kilbourne, reluctant sleuth
Sarah Caudwell – Hilary Tamar, Professor of Medieval Law at Oxford
V.C. Clinton-Baddeley – Dr. R.V. Davie, St. Nicholas College, Cambridge
Desmond Cory – John Dobie, Cardiff math professor
Edmund Crispin – Gervase Fen, Oxford professor
Amanda Cross – Kate Fansler, Harvard professor
Joanne Dobson – Karen Pellitier, a literature professor at a New England college
Aaron Elkins – Chris Norgren, museum curator & professor Gideon Oliver
Nora Kelly – Gillian Adams, professor and her Scotland Yard inspector boyfriend
Jane Langton – Homer and Mary Kelly, Harvard professor
Joan Smith – Loretta Lawson, British feminist academic
Cristina Sumners – Dr. Kathryn Koerney, seminary professor

Amateur Detectives

Authors Character/series

Sarah Andrews – Emily Hansen, geologist
Carolyn Banks – Robin Vaughan, horsewoman
Nevada Barr – Anna Pigeon, a Park Service ranger
Richard Barth – Margaret Binton, retired
C.J. Box – Joe Pickett, Wyoming game warden
Edna Buchanan – Britt Montero, reporter
Lee Child – Jack Reacher, former military police
Harlan Coben – Myron Bolitar, sports agent
Tim Cockey – Hitchcock Sewell, undertaker
Margaret Coel – Father John O'Malley and Vicky Holden, Attorney
Philip R. Craig – Jeff "J.W." Jackson, ex-Boston cop
Laura Crum – Gail McCarthy, veterinarian
Diane Mott Davidson – Goldy Bear, caterer and single mother in Colorado

**Western Massachusetts Regional Library System
Readers Advisory Series**

Val Davis – Nicolete “Nick” Scott, historical archeologist
G.H. Ephron – Dr. Peter Zak, forensic psychiatrist
Kate Flora – Thea Kozak, educational consultant
G.M. Ford – Frank Corso, true crime writer, Seattle
Dick Francis – mysteries involving horses and the racing world
Lyn Hamilton – Lara McClintock, antiquities dealer
Charlaine Harris – Lily Bard, cleaning lady
Sparkle Hayter – Robin Hudson, TV news reporter
Jonathan Kellerman – Alex Delaware, psychologist
Pete Kemprecos – Aristotle Socarides, fisherman-sleuth
Daniel Klein – Elvis as a sleuth
Margaret Maron – Deborah Knott, judge
Michael McGarrity – Kevin Kerney, ex-cop, southwest settings
Lynne Murray – Josephine Fuller, troubleshooter for a philanthropist
B.J. Oliphant – Shirley McClintock, retired government analyst
Thomas Perry – Jane Whitefield, Seneca Indian helps people disappear
Nancy Pickard – Florida-based true crime writer Marie Lightfoot
Kathy Reichs – Temperance Brennan, forensic anthropologist
Phyllis Richman – Chas Wheatley, restaurant critic
Phil Rickman – Merrily Watkins, single mom and Anglican priest
Jessica Speart – Rachel Porter, Special Agent, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Julia Spencer-Fleming – Priest Clare Ferguson & Police Chief Russ Van Alstyne
Karen Sturges – Phoebe Mullins, musical settings, Northampton MA
Steve Thayer – Rick Beanblossom, reporter
Betsy Thornton – Chloe Newcombe, victims’ advocate, Cochise County AZ
Kathy Hogan Trocheck – Callahan Garrity, cleaning service operator
Judith Van Gieson – Claire Reynier, rare book librarian, Albuquerque
Ayelet Waldman – Juliet Applebaum, ‘mommy-track’ mysteries

Classic Detectives

Authors Character/series

Raymond Chandler – Philip Marlowe, original hard-boiled detective, now a classic
Agatha Christie – a variety of detectives in the classic English mystery
Arthur Conan Doyle – Sherlock Holmes and his assistant, Dr. Watson
Dashiell Hammett – Sam Spade, Ned Beaumont, original hard-boiled detectives
Ngaiio Marsh – Roderick Alleyn, Inspector, son of a baron
Melville Davisson Post – Uncle Abner series, 1850’s western Virginia
Dorothy L. Sayers – Lord Peter Wimsey & Harriet Vane team up to solve crimes
Rex Stout – Nero Wolfe and his sidekick Archie

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Cozy Mysteries

Authors Character/series

Jeff Abbott – Jordan Poteet, Texas librarian
Catherine Aird – Christopher “Seedy” Sloan, British police Inspector
Susan Albert – China Bayles, herbalist
Nancy Atherton – Aunt Dimity, dead but still sleuthing
Mignon F. Ballard – Guardian angel Augusta Goodnight
M.C Beaton – Agatha Raisin and Hamish Macbeth solve crimes in their villages
Eleanor Boylan – Clara Gamadge, widow of a forgery expert
Dorothy Cannel – Ellie Haskell, young British sleuth
Laura Childs – Theodosia Browning, tea shop mysteries
Jill Churchill – Jane Jeffry, a Chicago single mother
Nancy J. Cohen – Marla Shore, hairstylist sleuth “Bad Hair Day” mysteries
Mary Daheim – Bed-and-Breakfast mysteries, Pacific Northwest
Elizabeth Daly – Henry Gamadge, author and bibliophile
Carola Dunn – British mysteries set in the 1920's
Earlene Fowler – Benni Harper, amateur sleuth and folk art museum curator
Ardella Garland (pseud. of Yolanda Joe) – African-American newswoman Georgia Barnett, Chicago
Ann Granger – English village mysteries
Sarah Graves – Jacobia “Jake” Tiptree “Home Repair is Murder” series
Parnell Hall – Cora Felton & niece Sherry Carter, ‘Puzzle (crossword) Lady’
Charlaine Harris – Aurora Teagarden, librarian
Carolyn G. Hart – Annie Darling, bookseller; Henrie O., retiree
Hazel Holt – Sheila Malory, magazine writer in Devon, England
Jane Langton – Homer Kelly, Harvard professor and retired detective
Charlotte MacLeod – Peter Shandy & Helen Shandy mysteries
Rett MacPherson – Missouri genealogist Torie O’Shea
Leslie Meier – Lucy Stone, part-time reporter in Tinker’s Corner ME
Tamar Myers – Magdalene Yoder, Mennonite innkeeper
Nancy Picard – Jenny Cain, foundation director in Massachusetts
Virginia Rich – Eugenia Potter, food writer
Cynthia Riggs – Victoria Trumbull, 92-year-old Martha’s Vineyard native, deputy police officer and naturalist
Veronica Stallwood – Historical romance writer Kate Ivory, Oxford
Karen Sturges – Phoebe Mullins, “Music Lover Mystery” series
Rebecca Tope – English village mysteries
Lee Wait – Maggie Summer, antique prints dealer

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Readers Advisory Series**

Detectives, Hard Boiled & Over Easy

Authors Character/series

Richard Barre – surfer turned PI Wil Hardesty, southern California
Lawrence Block – Matt Scudder series
James Lee Burke – Dave Robicheaux, former New Orleans policeman
Reed Farrel Coleman – Brooklyn PI Moe Praeger
Robert Crais – Elvis Cole, Viet Nam vet, ex-security guard turned PI
John Dunning – Cliff Janeway, ex-cop and Denver book dealer
Robert Greer – C. J. Floyd, bondsman
Jeremiah Healy – Boston PI John Francis Cuddy
Joe Lansdale – Hap Collins and his friend Leonard Pine
Dennis Lehane – Patrick Kenzie and Angelo Gennaro, Boston-based PI's
Wendi Lee – Angela Matelli, former Marine, current Boston PI
John D. MacDonald – Travis McGee, classic houseboat based PI
Walter Mosley – Easy Rawlins, a young black veteran in 1940's California
Kris Nelscott – Unlicensed PI Smokey Dalton, 1960's Chicago
Parker, Robert – Spencer PI, Boston detective; Sunny Randall, Boston PI
Ridley Pearson – Lou Boldt, Seattle homicide detective
Bill Pronzini – the nameless detective, San Francisco
Chris Rogers – Dixie Flannigan, bounty hunter
Arthur Rosenfeld – Max Diamond, a US postal inspector
S.J. Rozan – New York PI's Bill Smith and Lydia Chin
Dan Simmons – Ex-private eye, ex-con Joe Kurtz

Exotic locales

Authors Character/location

Batya Gur – Detective Michael Ohayon, Jerusalem
Steve Hamilton – Alex McKnight, retired cop, Michigan's Upper Peninsula
Sue Henry – Jessie Arnold, Alaskan dog trainer and Sergeant Alex Jensen, cop
Jasper Fforde – Detective Thursday Next, Literary Detectives Division
Robert J. Janes – A French and German policeman—in WWII occupied France
Stuart Kaminsky – Inspector Rostnikov, Moscow
Donna Leon – Inspector Brunetti, Venice
William Marshall – Chief Harry Feiffer of Hong Kong
Sharyn McCrumb – Ballad series, Appalachian Mountains
Ingrid J (I.J.) Parker – Lord Sugawara Akitada, 11th century Japan
Michael Pearce – Capt. Gareth Owen, the Mamur Zapt, colonial Egypt
Iain Pears – Jonathan Argyll, art dealer & Flavia di Stefano, art detective, Rome
Elizabeth Peters – Amelia Peabody, Victorian Egyptologist
J.D. Robb – Eve Dallas, 21st Century homicide detective

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Lisa See – Chinese Inspector Liu Hulan & American attorney David Stark
Alexander McCall Smith – Precious Ramotswe, #1 Ladies Detective Agency,
Botswana
Dana Stabenow – Liam Campbell; Kate Shugak, both series set in Alaska
Arthur Upfield – Inspector Napoleon “Bony” Bonaparte (half- aborigine), Australia
Robert van Gulik – Judge Dee, 7th century China

Historical Mystery

Authors Character/series

Bruce Alexander – Sir John Fielding & protégé Jeremy Proctor in late 18th century
England
Stephanie Barron – Jane Austen in Regency England
Rhys Bowen – Molly Murphy, an Irish woman in Tammany Hall-era New York
Ellis Peters – Brother Cadfael, medieval monk & herbalist in England
Caleb Carr – Dr. Lazlo Kreizler, psychologist, in 1890 New York
P.F. Chisholm – Sir Robert Carey, Deputy Warden in England in 1592
Jill Churchill – Grace and Favor series, NY state in the 1930’s
Lindsey Davis – Marcus Didius Falco, detective in Imperial Rome
Dianne Day – Fremont Jones, typist in 1900 San Francisco
Paul Doherty – Hugh Corbett (medieval); also series in ancient Egypt & Greece
Carola Dunn – Daisy Dalrymple, writer in the 1920s
Susanna Gregory – Cambridge physician Matthew Bartholomew, 14th century
Q.L. Grace – Kathryn Swinbrooke, a 15th century British physician
Barbara Hambly – Benjamin January, a freed man of color in 1830s New Orleans
Karen Harper – Elizabeth I in Tudor England
Simon Hawke – Symington Smythe, and his friend Will Shakespeare
Laurie R. King – Sherlock Holmes and Mary Russell in 1900 England
Margaret Lawrence – Hannah Trevor, midwife in 1790 Maine
Gillian Linscott – Nell Bray, suffragette in 1910 England
Miriam Grace Monfredo – Glynis Tryon, librarian in 1850 Seneca Falls, NY
Sharon Newman – Catherine LeVendeur, 12th century scholar in Scotland
Owen Parry – Maj. Abel Jones, agent for Abraham Lincoln
Cynthia Peale – Beacon Hill series, Caroline & Addington Ames, Victorian Boston
Anne Perry – William Monk, a Victorian detective with no memory of his past;
also Charlotte and William Pitt
Mary Reed and Eric Mayer – John, Lord Chamberlain to the Emperor Justinian,
6th century Constantinople
Candace Robb – Owen Archer, in an apothecary in the 14th century
Kate Ross – Julian Kestrell, gentleman in Regency England
Kate Sedley – Roger the Chapman, an English peddler in 1475
Troy Soos – Mickey Rawlings, baseball player in early 1900’s; Rebecca Davies
and Marshall Webb, 1890’s, reformer and writer in Manhattan

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Charles Todd – Inspector Ian Rutledge, Scotland Yard
Robert van Gulik – Judge Dee, 7th century China

Human And Animal Teams

Authors Character/series

Carol Lea Benjamin – Rachel Alexander, dog trainer & Dashiell her pit bull
Laurien Berenson – Melanie Travis, and her poodle
Barbara Block – Robin Light, pet store owner
Lilian Jackson Braun – Jim Qwilleran and his cats Koko and YumYum
Rita Mae Brown – Mary Minor Haristeen and her cats
Liza Cody – Eva Wylie, wrestler, and her junk yard dogs
Susan Conant – Holly Winter, dog trainer
Mark Daniel – horse racing thrillers
Carole Nelson Douglas – Temple Barr & cat Midnight Louie
Gerald Hammond – John Cunningham, hunting dog trainer
David Handler – Stewart “Hoagy” Hoag, ghost writer and his Bassett Hound
Virginia Lanier – Jo Beth Siddon, bloodhound dog trainer
William Murray – Shifty Lou Anderson, horse racing fan

Humorous mysteries

Authors Character/series

Lawrence Block – Bernie Rhodenbar, burglar
Nancy Bartholomew – Sierra Lavontini, a Panama City, Florida stripper
Janet Evanovich – Stephanie Plum, New Jersey bounty hunter
G.M. Ford – Leo Waterman, Seattle detective and his street- people operatives
Ed Gorman – Sam McCain, a 1950s PI
Sparkle Hayter – Robin Hudson, TV news reporter
Joan Hess – Arly Hanks, Arkansas sheriff
Carl Hiaasen – a variety of offbeat heroes
Sharon Kahn – Ruby Rothman, a rabbi’s widow from Eternal, Texas
Marne Davis Kellogg – Marshall Lilly Bennett, Texas
Tamar Myers – Den of Antiquity series
Donald Westlake – John Dortmunder and his gang of thieves

Legal settings

Authors Character/series

John Mortimer – Horace Rumpole of the Bailey
Parnell Hall – Stanley Hastings, ambulance chaser

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Erle Stanley Gardner – Perry Mason, attorney
Ed McBain – Matthew Hope, Florida
Richard North Patterson – Legal and political thrillers: politician Kerry Killcannon,
Attorney Tony Lord, Trial Lawyer Christopher Paget
Mike Steward – Attorney Tom McInnes, Alabama
William G. Tapply – Brady Coyne, Boston attorney
Judith Van Gieson – Neil Hamel, Albuquerque lawyer

Police Procedural

Authors Character/series

Ethan Black – New York police detective Conrad Voort
Eleanor Taylor Bland – homicide detective Marti MacAlister
Michael Connelly – Harry Bosch, LA detective
K.C. Constantine – Rocksborg PA Police Chief Mario Balzic & Det. Rugs Carlucci
Patricia Cornwell – Kate Scarpetta, medical examiner; Chief Judy Hammer
Mat Coward – Frank Mitchell and Don Packham, quirky British Inspectors
Deborah Crombie – Scotland Yard Superintendent Duncan Kincaid & Sgt. Gemma James
Jeffery Deaver – Lincoln Rhyme, forensic investigator
Colin Dexter – Inspector Morse & Sergeant Lewis, Oxford
Michael Dibdin – Aurelio Zen of the Criminalpol in Italy
Elizabeth George – Detective Inspector Thomas Lynley & Sargeant Havers
Elizabeth Gunn – Detective Jake Hines, Rutherford MN
Cynthia Harrod-Eagles – Inspector Bill Slider
Tony Hillerman – Joe Leaphorn & Jim Chee, Navaho police
J.A. Jance – J.P. Beaumont, Seattle homicide; Sheriff Joanna Brady, Arizona
Stuart M. Kaminsky – Chief Inspector Rostnikov of the Moscow police
H.R.F. Keating – Inspector Ganesh Ghote of the Bombay police
Peter Lovesey – Peter Diamond, a Chief Inspector in Bath
Barry Maitland – DCI David Brock and Det. Sgt. Kathy Kolla
Margaret Maron – Lt. Sigrid Harald of the New York Police Department
Archer Mayor – Joe Gunther, Vermont cop
Robert J. Randisi – Joe Keough, St. Louis cop
Ian Rankin – John Rebus, an Edinburgh police inspector
Peter Robinson – Inspector Alan Banks, Yorkshire police
Dana Stabenow – Sgt. Liam Campbell, Alaska
Carsten Stroud – plots illustrating 'disturbing trends in federal law enforcement'
Josephine Tey – Scotland Yard Inspector Alan Grant
Aimee and David Thurlo – Navajo Special Investigator Ella Clah
Rebecca Tope – Detective Den Cooper works his small English villages
Peter Turnbull – Chief Inspector Hennessey and Sergeant Yellich
Chassie West – Leigh Ann Warren, D.C. cop

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Women Detectives

Authors Character/series

Donna Andrews – Meg Langslow, a blacksmith
Linda Barnes – Carlotta Barnes, Boston cab driver and investigator
Jan Burke – Irene Kelly, newspaper reporter
Carol O’Connell – NYPD’s Mallory, unconventional mysteries
Sue Grafton – Kinsey Milhone, PI
Susan Dunlap – police detective Jill Smith
Laura Lippman – Tess Monaghan, former reporter, Baltimore PI
Margaret Maron – Deborah Knott, attorney
Sharyn McCrumb – Elizabeth MacPherson, forensic anthropologist
Marcia Muller – Sharon McCone, San Francisco PI
Sara Paretsky – V.I. Warshawski, Chicago PI
Sandra West Prowell – Montana PI Phoebe Siegel
April Smith – FBI Special Agent Ana Gray
Julie Smith – Skip Langdon, New Orleans policewoman
Dana Stabenow – Kate Shugak, Alaskan PI