

Deadly Pleasures

Developed by Karen Klopfer & Jan Resnick



Academic Sleuths

Authors Character/series

Gail Bowen – Joanne Kilbourne, reluctant sleuth
Sarah Caudwell – Hilary Tamar, Professor of Medieval Law at Oxford
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 professors

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
Edna Buchanan – Britt Montero, reporter
Harlan Coben – Myron Bolitar, sports agent
Tim Cockey – Hitchcock Sewell, undertaker
Coel, Margaret – Father John O'Malley and Vicky Holden, Attorney
Laura Crum – Gail McCarthy, veterinarian
Dick Francis – mysteries involving horses and the racing world
Carolyn G. Hart – Annie Darling, bookseller; Henrie O., retiree
Charlaine Harrison – Lily Bard, cleaning lady
Sparkle Hayter – Robin Hudson, TV news reporter
Pete Kempreco – Aristotle Socarides, fisherman-sleuth
Margaret Maron – Deborah Knott, judge
Lynne Murray – Josephine Fuller, troubleshooter for a philanthropist
Oliphant, B. J. – Shirley McClintock, retired government analyst
Phyllis Richman – Chas Wheatley, restaurant critic

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
Lillian Jackson Braun – Jim Quilleran 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

Classic Detectives

Authors Character/series

Agatha Christie – a variety of detectives in the classic English mystery
Ngaio Marsh – Roderick Alleyn, Inspector son of a baron
Dorothy L Sayers – Lord Peter Wimsey and Harriet Vane team up to solve crimes
Arthur Conan Doyle – Sherlock Holmes and his assistant, Dr. Watson
Rex Stout – Nero Wolfe and his sidekick Archie

Cozy Mysteries

Authors Character/series

Jeff Abbott – Jordan Poteet, Texas librarian
Catherine Aird – Christopher “Seedy” Sloan, British police Inspector
Susan Albert – China Bayles, an herbalist
Nancy Atherton – Aunt Dimity, dead but still sleuthing
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
Jill Churchill – Jane Jeffry, a Chicago single mother
Elizabeth Daly – Henry Gamadge, author and bibliophile
Diane Mott Davidson – Goldy Bear, caterer and single mother in Colorado
Carola Dunn – British mysteries set in the 1920's
Ann Granger – English village mysteries
Charlaine Harris – Aurora Teagarden, librarian

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

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
Tamar Myers – Magdalene Yoder, Mennonite innkeeper
Virginia Rich – Eugenia Potter, food writer

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
Robert J. Janes – A French and German policeman—in World War II occupied France
Stuart Kaminsky – Inspector Rostnikov, Moscow
William Marshall – Chief Harry Feiffer of Hong Kong
Michael Pearce – David Owen, the Mamur Zapt, Egypt
Iain Pears – Flavia di Stefano, Rome
Elizabeth Peters – Amelia Peabody, Victorian Egyptologist
J.D. Robb – Eve Dallas, 21st Century homicide detective
Dana Stabenow – Liam Campbell; Kate Shugak, both series set in Alaska
Arthur Upfield – Inspector Napoleon "Bony" Bonaparte (half- aborigine), Australia

Hard Boiled Detectives

Authors Character/series

Lawrence Block – Matt Scudder series
James Lee Burke – Dave Robicheaux, former New Orleans policeman
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
Joe Lansdale -- Hap Collins and his friend Leonard Pine
Dennis Lehane – Patrick Kenzie and Angelo Gennaro, Boston-based PI
Walter Mosley – Easy Rawlins, a young black veteran in 1940's California
Ridley Pearson – Lou Boldt, Seattle homicide detective
Bill Pronzini – a nameless, San Francisco based detective
Chris Rogers – Dixie Flannigan, bounty hunter
Arthur Rosenfeld – Max Diamond, a US postal inspector

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Historical Mystery

Authors Character/series

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
Lindsey Davis – Marcus Didius Falco, detective in Imperial Rome
Dianne Day – Fremont Jones, typist in 1900 San Francisco
Carola Dunn – Daisy Dalrymple, writer in the 1920s
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 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
Anne Perry – William Monk, a Victorian detective with no memory of his past;
also Charlotte and William Pitt
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

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
Donald Westlake – John Dortmunder and his gang of thieves

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Legal settings

Authors Character/series

Mortimer, John – Horace Rumpole of the Bailey
Parnell Hall – Stanley Hastings, ambulance chaser
Erle Stanley Gardner – Perry Mason, attorney
Ed McBain – Matthew Hope, Florida
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 Bland – homicide detective Marti MacAlister
Michael Dibdin – Aurelio Zen of the Criminalpol in Italy
Elizabeth George – Detective Inspector Thomas Lynley & Sargeant Havers
Cynthia Harrod-Eagles – Inspector Bill Slider
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
Margaret Maron – Lt. Sigrid Harald of the New York Police Department
Archer Mayor – Joe Gunther, Vermont cop
Ian Rankin – John Rebus, an Edinburgh police inspector

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
Patricia Cornwell – Kate Scarpetta, medical examiner
Sue Grafton – Kinsey Milhone, PI
Susan Dunlap – detective Jill Smith, police
Kathy Hogan Trocheck – Callahan Garrity, cleaning service operator
Laura Lippman – Tess Monaghan, Baltimore sleuth
Margaret Maron – Deborah Knott, attorney
Sharyn McCrumb – Elizabeth MacPherson, forensic anthropologist
Marcia Muller – Sharon McCone, San Francisco PI
Nancy Picard – Jenny Cain, foundation director in Massachusetts
Julie Smith – Skip Langdon a New Orleans policewoman