

Who's your favorite
amateur gumshoe?



Tell me about a great book to read

Philip Trent

Author: E.C. Bentley

Type: soft-boiled; written in the early 20th century and considered classics.

Nigel Strangeways

Author: Nicholas Blake

Type: soft-boiled; written in the early 20th century and considered classics.

Jane Marple

Author: Agatha Christie

Type: soft-boiled; English village setting.

Anthony Gethryn

Author: Philip MacDonald

Type: soft-boiled; written in the early 20th century and considered classics.

Hilary Tamar

Author: Sarah Caudwell

Type: legal

Gervase Fen

Author: Edmund Crispin

Type: academia, humorous

Dr. Sam: Johnson/ James Boswell

Author: Lillian de la Torre

Type: soft-boiled, historical

Rabbi David Small

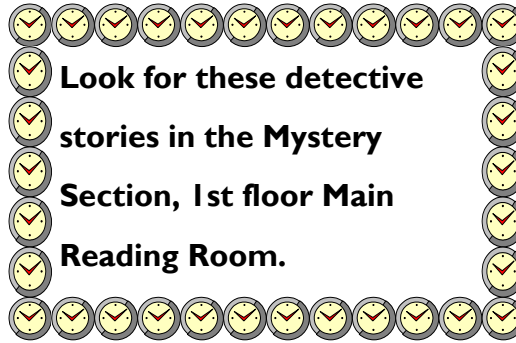
Author: Harry Kemelman

Type: Massachusetts, religion

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**Look for these detective
stories in the Mystery
Section, 1st floor Main
Reading Room.**

John Putnam Thatcher

Author: Emma Lathen

Type: banking

Pamela North/ Jerry North

Author: Frances and Richard Lockridge

Type: soft-boiled, New York, humorous

Brother Cadfael

Author: Ellis Peters

Type: historical, religion

Meg Langslow

Author: Donna Andrews

Type: soft-boiled, humorous

Agatha Raisin

Author: M.C. Beaton

Type: soft-boiled, humor

Charles Paris

Author: Simon Brett

Type: theater, humor

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Jane Jeffrey

Author: Jill Churchill

Type: soft-boiled, Chicago area

Myron Bolitar

Author: Harlan Coben

Type: hard-boiled

Kate Fansler

Author: Amanda Cross

Type: academia, feminism

Goldy Bear Schulz

Author: Diane Mott Davidson

Type: soft-boiled, cooking, Colorado

Temple Barr/ Midnight Louie

Author: Carole Nelson Douglas

Type: soft-boiled, cats

Gideon Oliver

Author: Aaron Elkins

Type: forensics

Owen Keane

Author: Terence Faherty

Type: religion

Patricia Anne Hollowell/ Mary Alice Crane

Author: Anne George

Type: soft-boiled, Southern USA, humor

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Annie Laurance/ Max Darling
Author: Carolyn G. Hart
Type: soft-boiled, Southern USA

Henrie O
Author: Carolyn G. Hart
Type: Darker than Annie Laurance series

Claire Malloy
Author: Joan Hess
Type: soft-boiled, humor, Arkansas

Mary Russell/ Sherlock Holmes
Author: Laurie King
Type: historical, Victorian England

Elizabeth MacPherson
Author: Sharon McCrumb
Type: soft-boiled, romance, Appalachia

Easy Rawlings
Author: Walter Mosley
Type: hard-boiled, historical, African-American, California

Catherine Le Vendeur
Author: Sharan Newman
Type: historical, Middle Ages, Religion

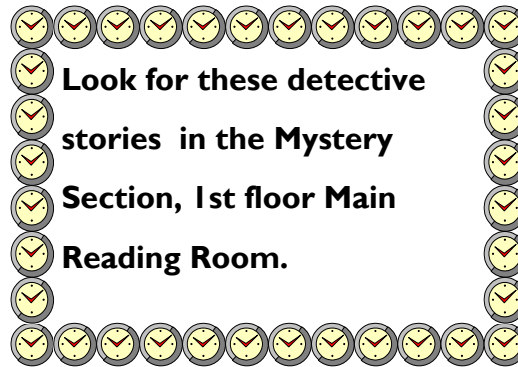
Faith Sibley Fairchild
Author: Katherine Hall Page
Type: soft-boiled, culinary

Jim Qwilleran/ Koko/ Yum Yum
Author: Lilian Jackson Braun
Type: soft-boiled, cats

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Vicky Bliss
Author: Elizabeth Peters
Type: soft-boiled, art, antiquities

Amelia Peabody
Author: Elizabeth Peters
Type: soft-boiled, historical (1900-1999),
archeology

Jenny Cain
Author: Nancy Pickard
Type: soft-boiled, Massachusetts, small
town, family life

Alan Gregory
Author: Stephen White
Type: hard-boiled, Colorado,
psychology

Susan Henshaw
Author: Valerie Wolzien
Type: soft-boiled, Connecticut

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As an aid to locating good mystery
reads . . .

[Make Mine a Mystery: a Reader's
Guide to Mystery and Detective Fiction](#)
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This book provides an overview of each
mystery writer's style and major themes
as well as plot summaries for specific
titles. If you already have a favorite
mystery writer, you can use this source
to find other mystery writers that may
appeal to you.

Be sure to check out the many web
sites dedicated to detective stories.
You will find links to them from the
Library's online Reader's Corner,
Literature Links.



About the terminology used in this
booklist . . .

Those mystery series described as
"soft-boiled" have less blood and
mayhem, explicit sex, and profanity
than "hard-boiled" series.