

What is Mystery?

Mystery is one of the most popular fiction genres, and encompasses stories of detection, suspense, courtroom drama, unexpected surprises and erratic happenings. Mysteries are often written as a series where the investigator follows through on several cases, and are either character or series-centric.

Mystery fiction can be sub-divided into these sub-genres:

Detective Mystery, usually written in series, includes puzzle-solving, misdeeds and culprits. A detective solves a mystery with the help of clues and investigations.

Crime / Caper, spotlight is on the criminal himself and characters in the stories can come from all walks of life regardless of race, religion, language, education or income.

Suspense revolves around unpredictable events and a feeling of impending disaster. The criminal would have been identified early in the story, and the reader needs to keep reading to find out what happens next.

Soft-boiled Mystery ("Cozy"), focus of the story is on the crime itself, but takes into account interpersonal relationships, family and friends. The plot is generally set in a small, close, discreet and non-violent community.

Hard-boiled Mystery, crimes are depicted in graphic and gory details and mainly about a "tough guy" detective and the unconventional methods he uses to catch the culprits.

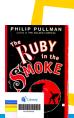
Legal Thrillers are stories featuring lawyers, courtroom drama, personal integrity and legal troubles. Plot is generally fast-paced as the accused races against time to prove himself innocent.



The Face On The Milk Carton

by Caroline B. Cooney Publisher: New York: Bantam Books, c1990 Call No.: Y English COO

184 pages



The Ruby In The Smoke

by Philip Pullman
Publisher: New York:
Knopf: Distributed by
Random House, c1985.
Call No.: Y English PUL

230 pages



Before I Say Goodbye by Mary Higgins Clark Publisher: London: Simon & Schuster, 2000.

Call No.: English CLA-[TH]

332 pages



The Complete Sherlock Holmes

by Arthur Conan Doyle

Publisher:

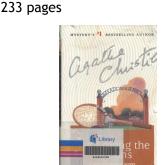
New York: Gramercy Books, 2002.

Call No.: English DOY

480 pages



I Am The Cheese by Robert Cormier Publisher: England: Puffin Books, 1998 Call No.: Y English COR



Tightrope by Gillian Cross

Publisher: Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 1999.

Call No.: Y English CRO

199 pages

Cat Among Pigeons

by Agatha Christie Publisher: London:

HarperCollinsPublishers, 1994. Call No.: English CHR-[MY]

224 pages

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