

Award-Winning Mystery Novels

Looking for a good who-dunnit? Here are some sure bets!

Agatha Awards

These “cozy” mystery authors write series that feature amateur sleuths, often are humorous, emphasize local color and usually do not contain explicit sex or excessive violence. The Agatha Award (named for Agatha Christie) is announced at the Malice Domestic mystery convention in the year following publication. Here are the winners for Best Novel over the past 10 years.

<http://www.malicedomestic.org/agathaawards.html>

1999: *Mariner's Compass* by Earlene Fowler
2000: *Storm Track* by Margaret Maron
2001: *Murphy's Law* by Rhys Bowen
2002: *You've Got Murder* by Donna Andrews
2003: *Letter From Home* by Carolyn G. Hart
2004: *Birds of a Feather* by Jacqueline Winspear
2005: *The Body in the Snowdrift* by Katherine Hall Page
2006: *The Virgin of Small Plains* by Nancy Pickard
2007: *A Fatal Grace* by Louise Penny
2008: *The Cruellest Month* by Louise Penny

Edgar Allen Poe Awards

The Edgar Allen Poe Award is given annually by the Mystery Writers of America. Novels may involve private eyes or police detectives, and will include the more “hard-boiled” mysteries. The following are some winners in the Best Novel category.

<http://www.theedgars.com/>

2009: *Blue Heaven* by C. J. Box
2008: *Down River* by John Hart
2007: *The Janissary Tree* by Jason Goodwin
2006: *Citizen Vince* by Jess Walter
2005: *California Girl* by T. Jefferson Parker
2004: *Resurrection Men* by Ian Rankin
2003: *Winter and Night* by S. J. Rozan
2002: *Silent Joe* by T. Jefferson Parker
2001: *The Bottoms* by Joe R. Lansdale
2000: *Bones* by Jan Burke
1999: *Mr. White's Confession* by Robert Clark

The Anthony Awards

Named for long-time mystery critic for NY Times Anthony Boucher, the Anthony Awards are presented each year at the Bouchercon World Mystery Convention, chosen by fans. Here are recent winners for the Best Novel category.

<http://www.mysteryreaders.org/macavity.html>

2009: *The Brass Verdict* by Michael Connelly
2008: *What the Dead Know* by Laura Lippman
2007: *No Good Deeds* by Laura Lippman

2006: *Mercy Falls* by William Kent Krueger
2005: *Blood Hollow* by William Kent Krueger
2004: *Every Secret Thing* by Laura Lippman
2003: *Murder in the Sentier* by Cara Black
2002: *Mystic River* by Dennis Lehane
2001: *A Place of Execution* by Val McDermid
2000: *In a Dry Season* by Peter Robinson
1999: *Blood Work* By Michael Connelly

The Shamus Awards

The Shamus Awards are presented each year by the Private Eye Writers of America. Nominations and awards are determined by a committee of PWA members and are announced at the Bouchercon convention in October.

<http://www.thrillingdetective.com/trivia/triv72.html>

2009: *Empty Ever After* by Reed Farrel Coleman
2008: *Soul Patch* by Reed Farrel Coleman
2007: *The Dramatist* by Ken Bruen
2006: *The Lincoln Lawyer* by Michael Connelly
2005: *While I Disappear* by Robert Wright
2004: *The Guards* by Ken Bruen
2003: *Blackwater Sound* by James W. Hall
2002: *Reflecting the Sky* by S. J. Rozan
2001: *Havana Heat* by Carolina Garcia-Aguilera
2000: *California Fire and Life* by Don Winslow
1999: *Boobytrap* by Bill Pronzini

The Macavity Awards

The Macavity Award is named for the “mystery cat” of T.S. Eliot. Each year the members of Mystery Readers International nominate and vote for their favorite mysteries. Recent choices for Best Novel are below.

<http://www.mysteryreaders.org/macavity.html>

2009: *Where Memories Lie* by Deborah Crombie
2008: *What the Dead Know* by Laura Lippman
2007: *The Virgin of Small Plains* by Nancy Pickard
2006: *The Lincoln Lawyer* by Michael Connelly
2005: *The Killing of the Tinkers* by Ken Bruen
2004: *The House Sitter* by Peter Lovesey
2003: *Winter and Night* by S.J. Rozan
2002: *Folly* by Laurie R. King
2001: *A Place of Execution* by Val McDermid
2000: *The Flower Master* by Sujata Massey
1999: *Blood Work* by Michael Connelly