Good Mystery & Crime Thrillers

If you are a reader of mystery/crime fiction already, then you understand the “pull” that this genre of writing has over a person. If you have never read a really good mystery/crime thriller, you don’t yet know about this pull ... but if it’s the right fit for you, it will suck you in and right under. Since you could be missing out, you might want to try one. Just in case.

May was Canada’s “National Crime Writing month”, and so here is your chance to “taste and see” if you like the flavours which a good mystery or crime novel invariably have. And there are quite a few very good Canadian crime writers, just waiting for you here in Georgian’s library.

Part of the draw for me, of reading a book written by a local or national author, is spotting or recognizing the settings or location of where it’s set. “Oh, THAT’s Kingston!”, or “I know where this is, I stayed near there, on Vancouver Island last summer!” and so on. Read one of these and see if you can see the city it is set in, and feel the pull of the mystery:

The Red Power Murders / Thomas King

Cherokee ex-cop Thumps DreadfulWater. That name though.

This is not what you’d expect from a mystery, but it is what you’d expect from Thomas King. Wry, irreverent, biting, entertaining. Even critics like this series.

From the author of the RBC Taylor Prize winning, non-fiction “The inconvenient Indian”
Forty words for sorrow / Giles Blunt

First book in a dark, deep, and descriptive police series.
Harrowing in some parts, evocative in others.
You’ll recognize this Ontario northern town easily, especially if you’ve been there and have driven the streets or walked the lakefront. The mystery is grisly and shocking. The characters are real and authentic.

Won the Macallan Silver Dagger for Fiction

Find you in the dark / Nathan Ripley

Flipping between the perspectives of a serial killer, two police detectives and a man who straddles the line between them both, this book truly disturbs the reader. As it is supposed to. Ripley is a known Toronto, award-winning non-fiction author and this debut puts a grisly spin in the mystery of who did what.

This book was an Arthur Ellis Awards finalist for Best First Novel.

Stanley Park / Timothy Taylor

Do you know or love Vancouver? Are you a foodie? Combine both with a story about a “100-mile” style chef with a lot going on.

This is the first mystery from the short story and Canadian novelist and it’s set in his beloved home town.

Nominated for the Giller.
Still Mine / Amy Stuart

An atmospheric psychological thriller. A girl disappears. Almost. “When you don’t leave a clear story behind, someone will make one up for you.” Don’t compare this book with others you’ve heard about, just begin to read and see where it takes you.

Not an award winner. “Just” a bestseller 😊

Happy reading. May all your murders take place inside books.