



COOL CANADIAN CRIME

Shortlist Special 2012

Best Crime Novel

- A Trick of the Light** by Louise Penny, St. Martin's Press
Before the Poison by Peter Robinson, McClelland and Stewart
I Am Half-Sick of Shadows by Alan Bradley, Doubleday Canada
I'll See you in My Dreams by William Deverell, McClelland and Stewart
The Guilty Plea by Robert Rotenberg, Simon & Schuster

Best First Novel

- The Man Who Killed** by Fraser Nixon, Douglas & McIntyre
The Survivor by Sean Slater, Simon & Schuster
The Water Rat of Wanchai by Ian Hamilton, House of Anansi Press Inc.
Tight Corner by Roger White, BPS Books
Watching Jeopardy by Norm Foster, XLibris

Best Crime Book in French

- La chorale du diable** by Martin Michaud, Les Editions Guélette
Pwazon by Diane Vincent, Editors Triptyque
Pour Ne Pas Mourir ce soir by Guillaume Lapierre-Desnoyers, Lévesque Éditeur



Best Juvenile or Young Adult Crime Book

- Blink & Caution** by Tim Wynne-Jones, Candlewick Press
Charlie's Key by Rob Mills, Orca Book Publishers
Empire of Ruins by Arthur Slade, HarperCollins Publishers
Held by Edeet Ravel, Annick Press
Missing by Becky Citra, Orca Book Publishers

Best Crime Nonfiction

- A Season in Hell** by Robert Fowler, Harper Collins
Hot Art: Chasing Thieves and Detectives Through the Secret World of Stolen Art by Joshua Knelman, Douglas & McIntyre
The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea by Steven Laffoley, Pottersfield
The Pirates of Somalia by Jay Bahader, Harper Collins
The Weasel: A Double Life in the Mob by Adrian Humphreys, Wiley

Best Crime Short Story

- A New Pair of Pants** by Jas. R. Petrin, *Alfred Hitchcock*
Beer Money by Shane Nelson, *Ellery Queen*
The Girl with the Golden Hair by Scott Mackay, *Ellery Queen*
The Perfect Mark by Melodie Campbell, *Flash Fiction Magazine*
What Kelly Did by Catherine Astolfo, *North Word Magazine*

Best Unpublished First Novel - "Unhanged Arthur"

- Gunning for Bear** by Madeleine Harris-Callway
Last of the Independents by Sam Wiebe
Snake in the Snow by William Bonnell
The Rhymester by Valerie A. Drego
Too Far to Fall by Shane Sawyer

BEST CRIME NOVEL SHORTLIST

A Trick of the Light by Louise Penny, St. Martin's Press
 "Hearts are broken," Lillian Dyson carefully underlined in a book. "Sweet relationships are dead."

But now Lillian herself is dead. ...even when facts are slowly exposed, it is no longer clear to Gamache and his team if what they've found is the truth, or simply a trick of the light.

Before the Poison by Peter Robinson, McClelland and Stewart

Widower, Chris rents an isolated house that will allow him the space to grieve and the peace to compose his piano sonata. But when he finds that the house was the scene of a murder in the 1950s, and the convicted murderer was one of the last women hanged in England, he finds himself increasingly distracted by the events of sixty years before.

I Am Half-Sick of Shadows by Alan Bradley, Doubleday Canada

It's Christmas time, and our beloved Flavia is tucked away in her laboratory whipping up a sticky concoction to trap that infamous sneak, Saint Nick, and thereby prove once and for all - despite the claims of her evil sisters - that he does exist.

I'll See you in My Dreams by William Deverell, McClelland and Stewart

This fifth in the bestselling, award-winning Arthur Beauchamp series finds the outwardly crusty, poetry-loving, wily old lawyer compelled, by new developments, to look back at his first -- and most disastrous -- murder trial.

The Guilty Plea by Robert Rotenberg, Simon & Schuster

On the morning that his headline-grabbing divorce trial is set to begin, Terrance Wyler, youngest son of the Wyler Food dynasty, is found stabbed to death in the kitchen of his million-dollar home. Detective Ari Greene arrives minutes before the press and finds Wyler's four-year-old son asleep upstairs.

BEST FIRST NOVEL

The Man Who Killed by Fraser Nixon, Douglas & McIntyre
 Montreal, 1926. Mick is down on his luck until an old pal offers him a loaded revolver and a job as a bootlegger riding shotgun in a truck running booze across the border. Shot through with dark humour and strange pathos, this is a novel of two friends who do bad things mostly for money, sometimes for fun.

The Survivor by Sean Slater, Simon & Schuster

In his first hour back from a six-month leave of absence, Detective Jacob Striker's day quickly turns into a nightmare. He is barely on the scene five minutes at his daughter's high school when he encounters an active shooter situation.

The Water Rat of Wanchai by Ian Hamilton, House of Anansi Press Inc.

Ava Lee is a young Chinese-Canadian forensic accountant who works for an elderly Hong Kong-based "Uncle," who may or may not have ties to the Triads. At 115 lbs., she hardly seems a threat. But her razorsharp intellect and resourcefulness allows her to succeed where traditional methods have failed.

Tight Corner by Roger White, BPS Books

Conn Anderson, a former public servant, has turned a passion for old English sports cars into owning a shop, Britfit, that repairs them. All he wants to do is run his business - that and get to know his landlady's niece a whole lot better. Everything is going swimmingly until a mysterious government-leased Jaguar is destroyed on the premises ...

Watching Jeopardy by Norm Foster, Xlibris

Mickey Welton is appearing on Jeopardy tonight and his hometown of Rainbow, New Brunswick - population nine thousand - has come to a standstill as broadcast time approaches. Meanwhile, across town, Rainbow high school teacher Bonnie Hoyt has been found murdered in her home.

BEST CRIME BOOK IN FRENCH

La chorale du diable by Martin Michaud, Les Editions Guélette

Dans ce qui a tout l'air d'être un drame familial, une femme et ses trois enfants sont sauvagement tués à coups de hache. L'auteur présumé du carnage, le mari, s'est suicidé après s'être tranché la langue. Mais est-ce bien ce qui s'est passé?

In what has every appearance of being a family drama, a wife and three children were brutally killed with an ax. The alleged perpetrator of the carnage, the husband, committed suicide. But is that what happened?

Pwazon by Diane Vincent, Editors Triptyque

Pourquoi faut-il toujours que la massothérapeute, Josette Marchand, s'imisce dans les enquêtes de l'inspecteur Vincent Bastianello? Parce que même si on lui dit qu'il s'agit d'un petit meurtre sans éclaboussures, sans griffures, sans torture, son coeur de fouineuse est toujours prêt à s'enflammer.

Why is it that the massage therapist, Josette Marchand, always interferes with the investigations of Inspector Vincent Bastianello? Because even if he says it's a little murder, her nose for mystery is always ready to go.

Pour Ne Pas Mourir ce soir by Guillaume Lapierre-Desnoyers, Lèvesque Éditeur

Carl White croyait que son existence était tracée d'avance. Depuis trois ans, il perd sa vie comme photojournaliste de nuit affecté aux faits divers pour le journal Le Jour, il végète dans un monde nocturne étrange, peuplé de policiers, de dépanneuses et de corps mutilés, quelque part entre la vie et la mort.

Carl White believed that his life was marked out in advance. For three years he lost his life as a photojournalist assigned to the night news for the newspaper Le Jour, he languishes in a strange nocturnal world, populated with police, tow trucks and mutilated bodies, somewhere between life and death.

BEST JUVENILE OR YOUNG ADULT CRIME BOOK

Blink & Caution by Tim Wynne-Jones, Candlewick Press

Boy, did Blink get off on the wrong floor. All he wanted was to steal some breakfast for his empty belly, but instead he stumbled upon a fake kidnapping and a cell phone dropped by an "abducted" CEO, giving Blink a link to his perfect blonde daughter.

Charlie's Key by Rob Mills, Orca Book Publishers

When Charlie Sykes wakes up in hospital in St. John's, he learns that he and his father have been in a car accident and that his father is dying. Charlie inherits little more than the brass key that his father pressed into his hand before he passed away.

Held by Edeet Ravel, Annick Press

Seventeen-year-old Chloe's summer vacation in Greece comes to an abrupt end when she is suddenly bound, gagged and whisked away to an unidentified location. Waking up from a drug-induced sleep, she finds herself in a squalid warehouse.

Missing by Becky Citra, Orca Book Publishers

Thea and her dad are always on the move, from one small Cariboo town to another, trying to leave behind the pain of Thea's mom's death. ...when her dad gets work renovating a guest ranch on Gumboot Lake, she dares to hope that their wandering days are over. When some disturbing facts come to light, she finally starts to come to terms with the losses in her own life.

Empire of Ruins by Arthur Slade, HarperCollins Publishers

While Modo has spent a quiet winter recovering from his adventure in the dark deeps, talk is swirling around London of ancient Egyptian ruins in the midst of the Australian rainforest. A temple bulges with riches but also contains danger: the infamous God Face.

BEST CRIME NONFICTION

A Season in Hell by Robert Fowler, Harper Collins

For decades, Robert R. Fowler was a dominant force in Canadian foreign affairs. In one heart-stopping minute, all of that changed. On December 14, 2008, Fowler, acting as the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy to Niger, was kidnapped by Al Qaeda, becoming the highest ranked UN official ever held captive.

Hot Art: Chasing Thieves and Detectives Through the Secret World of Stolen Art by Joshua Knelman, Douglas & McIntyre

Joshua Knelman spent four years immersing himself in the mysterious world of international art theft, travelling from Cairo to New York, London, Montreal and Los Angeles. He befriends the slippery Paul, a master art thief; and gets caught up in the world of Donald Hrycyk, a detective working on a shoestring budget to recover stolen art.

The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea by Steven Laffoley, Pottersfield

And so begins another cold-case murder investigation by writer Steven Laffoley, as he travels the tough streets of Halifax to the courtrooms of Boston in search of a killer. Along the way, he explores the world of 1896 and discovers that nothing in this case is what it first seems. In turns fascinating, frightening, and funny, *The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea* is an intriguing true tale of murder, mystery, and madness.

The Pirates of Somalia by Jay Bahader, Harper Collins

For centuries, stories of pirates have captured the imagination of people everywhere. But the recent gangs of daring, ragtag pirates off the coast of Somalia, hijacking huge ships owned

by international conglomerates, have brought the scourge of piracy into the modern era.

The Weasel: A Double Life in the Mob by Adrian Humphreys, Wiley

By a quirk of fate, Marvin Elkind – later The Weasel – was placed in the foster home of a tough gangster family, immersing him from the age of nine in a daring world of con men, cheats, bootleggers, loan sharks, bank robbers, leg breakers and Mafia bosses. ... But his disenchantment with the broken promises of mob life brought him into another fraternity, one offering the same adrenaline rush, danger and dark comedy he craved.

BEST CRIME SHORT STORY

A New Pair of Pants by Jas. R. Petrin, *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*

Beer Money by Shane Nelson, *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*

The Girl with the Golden Hair by Scott Mackay, *Ellery Queen*
www.scottmackay.net

The Perfect Mark by Melodie Campbell, *Flash Fiction Magazine*
funnygirlmelodie.blogspot.ca

What Kelly Did by Catherine Astolfo, *North Word Magazine*
www.catherineastolfo.com

The Arthur Ellis Awards were established in 1984 and named after the nom de travail of Canada's official hangman – a quirky bit of gallows humour. The Arthur award is wooden model of a hanging man, hand-crafted by artist Barry Lambeck. The arms and legs move when the statue's string is pulled.

BEST UNPUBLISHED FIRST NOVEL - “UNHANGED ARTHUR”

Gunning for Bear by Madeleine Harris-Callway

Madeleine is an award-winning short story writer. Her stories have appeared in several publications, including anthologies **Going Out with a Bang** and **Blood on the Holly**. Before starting her management consulting business, Madeleine investigated disease outbreaks for Ontario's Ministry of Health.

Toronto

Last of the Independents by Sam Wiebe

Sam Wiebe has an MA and a sizable student debt from SFU. His short story *He's No Humanitarian, But Damn Can He Take a Punch*, won second prize in the 2011 Scene of the Crime contest.

Vancouver

Snake in the Snow by William Bonnell

William Bonnell is a member of Crime Writers of Canada.

Toronto

The Rhymester by Valerie A. Drego

Valerie holds a doctorate in literature from the University of Bombay and, during her college days, won several awards for essay writing and composition. She also studied business management and worked for fifteen years as an executive in the pharmaceutical industry.

Montreal

Too Far to Fall by Shane Sawyer

Like her character, Edie Doyle, Shane has seen a bit of the world. She has been a lawyer in Ottawa, a database administrator in Australia, a copyeditor in Taiwan and is currently living in California

United States

The Arthur Ellis Award for Best Unpublished First Crime Novel was first awarded by the Crime Writers of Canada in 2007 as part of the CWC mandate to recognize and promote the careers of promising new crime writers. The competition is open to Canadian citizens, no matter where they are living, and to writers, regardless of nationality, who have Permanent Resident status in Canada, and who have never had a novel of any kind published commercially.

2012 Arthur Ellis Awards Banquet

Who will win the Arthur? Find out on May 31

Sign up for a Sweet Celebration!

This year marks the 30th Anniversary of Crime Writers of Canada, so we've planned a special gala for the Awards.

Come and be part of the fun.

Thursday May 31, 2012

Toronto I, Hilton Toronto,

145 Richmond Street West, Toronto

Start time: 8 pm

Tickets: \$80.00

[Click here to order tickets.](#)