Five Dynamite Mystery Series

Many patrons love Mysteries and Thrillers and have their favorite detectives. If you like a series, and love the Mystery genre, here are some very popular series to dive into. The first in the series is listed for each, in case you are a reader who likes to start at the beginning. If you start at the beginning you will appreciate the characters as they develop.

David Baldacci
Baldacci is a prolific writer and has at least 11 series to his credit. The one we are recommending here is the Camel Club Series and the main character is Oliver Stone. The Camel Club is a group of men who meet in Washington D.C. to discuss political conspiracy theories and plots. In the first of the series, the group witnesses the murder of a Secret Service agent, and they are pulled into a bigger conspiracy than they could have imagined. The first book in the series is The Camel Club.

Harlan Coben
Our favorite Harlan Coben books are in the Myron Bolitar series, featuring Myron and his sidekicks, Windsor Horne Lockwood III (Win) and his assistant at his “MB Sports Reps” business, Esperanza Diaz. Who knew a sports agent’s life was so fraught with danger? Between kidnappings, murder and mayhem, Myron hardly has time for his job. Coben’s characters are complex and his plots are multi-layered, adding up to a gripping story. The first in the series is Deal Breaker.

Robert Galbraith
Galbraith is a pseudonym for J.K. Rowling, and this is her first successful series for adults. Her protagonist is Cormoran Strike, who has opened a private detective agency in London, and is trying to make a go of it. He is ex-army, from the Royal Military Police Special Investigation Branch. The first in the series is The Cuckoo’s Calling. With intelligent, complex characters, and suspenseful plots, fans can hardly wait for another of Cormoran’s cases.

Lisa Gardner
Detective D.D. Warren is Gardner’s favorite character. Smart and sassy, D.D. Warren is afraid of nothing and no one. A Boston Police Detective, Warren’s cases are usually complicated and sometimes pull in other professionals, but Warren always finds the solution first. The series starts with Alone, a book featuring three characters who come together in an explosive moment of violence, which only Detective D.D. Warren has a hope of forestalling.

Louise Penny
Louise Penny authors the very popular Three Pines Mystery series, starring Chief Inspector of Homicide Armand Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec. The village of Three Pines is in the woods outside of Quebec, and the villagers play a major role in most of the books. Gamache makes suspects squirm under his intense scrutiny and intelligent and kindly manner. This series begins with Still Life which should probably be read first as there are major plot shifts in the background over the course of the series. Inspector Gamache will keep the reader addicted to the last page.

**Most of the books in these series are available in eZone**

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BOOK OF THE MONTH:

Long Bright River [Fiction; Thriller; Drug Addicts; available in eZone]
by Liz Moore

The opioid crisis in America is the “river” in this story, threatening to sweep one sister away from the other.

Mickey Fitzpatrick is a young policewoman on patrol in Kensington, a sad and poor section of Philadelphia. Mickey is a single mom, trying hard to do her best for her son Thomas, but keeps an eye on her sister Kacey at the same time. Mickey and Kacey were raised by their grandmother, a cold and no-nonsense woman who is scarred by the death of her daughter, the girls’ mother, a drug addict, when they were young. Mickey was a serious, studious and quiet girl, always feeling that she needed to protect her outgoing, popular sister, Kacey. They grew apart as teenagers when Kacey started dabbling with drugs and eventually prostitution. Mickey wanted to make something of herself and became a police officer. Her mission, when she is patrolling, is to watch for Kacey, now a prostitute, and try to keep her safe. When Kacey goes missing, and a serial killer is on the loose targeting prostitutes, Mickey risks her career to save her sister.

Critics refer to Long Bright River as a mystery, but it also contains themes of family and love, and the lengths we would go to, to protect those we hold dear.

Mary Anne

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Colleen

* Eight Perfect Murders by Peter Swanson [Detective and Mystery Fiction; Widowers; available in eZone and Hoopla]
* The Seine: The River That Made Paris by Elaine Sciolino [Non-fiction; Description and Travel; available in eZone]

Jayne

* The Egg and I by Betty MacDonald [Non-fiction; Farm Life; Humor; available in Hoopla]
* Self-Working Close-Up Card Magic: 56 Foolproof Tricks by Karl Fulves [Non-fiction; Cards; Magic; available in Hoopla]
* Separation Anxiety by Laura Zigman [Audiobook; Domestic Fiction; Humor; available in Hoopla]

Jen

* American Standard by James Taylor [CD; Popular Music; available in Hoopla]
* My Best Friend’s Exorcism by Grady Hendrix [Horror Fiction; High School Students; available in eZone and Hoopla]
* Welcoming the Unwelcome by Pema Chodron [Buddhism; Spiritual Life; available in eZone]

Niles

* Facing East from Indian Country: A Narrative History of Early America by Daniel K. Richter [Indians of North America; Discovery and Exploration; available in Hoopla]
* The Fall of France: The Nazi Invasion of 1940 by Julian Jackson [Non-fiction; World War II]