



Researching a Mystery Novel

Michal Strutin
MWA NorCal Chapter
February 2024





ABCs

Authority: check the About tab

Bias: does the source have a particular viewpoint, ax to grind, etc.?

Currency: IT, laws and societal views, and more can change from decade to decade





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Nick Taylor at WM Phoenix Open >

WM Phoenix Open
NICK TAYLOR WINS 2024 WM PHOENIX OPEN – Official Website of the W...
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Nick Taylor overcomes Charley Hoffman in playoff to win WM Phoenix Open - PGA...
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ESPN
Nick Taylor holds 1-shot lead at waterlogged Phoenix Open
1 day ago

The Arizona Republic
Phoenix Open updates: Taylor wins tournament on 2nd playoff hole over...
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Fox News
Morgan Riddle, girlfriend of US tennis star Taylor Fritz, details harassment at Sup...
14 mins ago

Sports Illustrated
Jazz HC Will Hardy Says Taylor Hendricks Will 'Be Playing Every Night'
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Body Farm*
at .gov





Search Results: body farm* .gov

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 [fbi.gov](https://www.fbi.gov)
<https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/body-farm-20th-a...>

FBI Marks 20 Years of Training at the 'Body Farm'

Mar 20, 2019 — For two decades, members of the FBI's Evidence Response Teams have trained on properly excavating burial sites at the Anthropology Research ...

 [fbi.gov](https://www.fbi.gov)
<https://www.fbi.gov/hrrc-ert-031518.mp4>

FBI Marks 20 Years of Training at 'Body Farm'

The Forensic Anthropology Center in Knoxville, Tennessee, has been training FBI Evidence Response Team (ERT) members for 20 years on techniques they can ...



 [fbi.gov](https://www.fbi.gov)
<https://www.fbi.gov/video-repository>

FBI Trains at the 'Body Farm'

A team of FBI students spent two full days on an excavation at the FBI's annual Recovery of Human Remains course at the **Body Farm** in Tennessee.



 [ojp.gov](https://www.ojp.gov)
<https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts>

Lessons From the Body Farm

by J Mertens · Cited by 3 — The subject areas taught include: (1) how human bones can be used to estimate age, sex, ancestry and the structure of skeletal remains; (2) how organic and ...

 [ojp.gov](https://www.ojp.gov)
<https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts>

Down on the Body Farm

by J Jefferson · Cited by 1 — The **Body Farm** is a two-acre patch of wooded hillside where as many as 40 bodies at a time lie decomposing, arrayed in settings of typical crime scenes. The ...

 [ms.gov](https://www.dps.ms.gov)
<https://www.dps.ms.gov/medical-examiner/forensic-a...>

Forensic Anthropology

... **Body Farm**, "the first outdoor anthropological research facility of its kind. Dr. Symes is best known for his expertise in interpreting trauma to bone, and ...



How Things Work: YouTube

decomposition body

The Strange, Smelly Science of Decomposing Bodies
525K views · 8 years ago
SciShow
How is it we know so much of decomposition? The smelly truth? - Body Farms! Michael Aranda explains what happens...
CC
Intro | FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGISTS | BODY FARMS | AUTOLYSIS | ANAEROBIC BACTERIA | BLOA...

YOUR BODY AFTER DEATH
197K views · 5 years ago
Insider Science
Just minutes after you die, enzymes in your body that helped to keep you alive switch gears and start the decomp...

Decomposing Bodies to Solve Cold Case Murders
3.4M views · 4 years ago
VICE
The number of missing persons and unidentified remains in the United States has been called "the nation's silent r...

The fascinating process of human decomposition
8.2M views · 9 years ago
Vox
We visited the largest body farm in the world, where researchers study human decomposition in order to help law...
CC

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This year			Creative Commons	
			360°	
			VR180	
			3D	
			HDR	
			Location	
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How Things Work: More YouTube Examples

how to use a glock

- How to use a Glock (any caliber) in under 60 seconds**
5.7M views
- how to load/unload Glock 19 Gen 3**
4.7M views
- How To Use A Glock In 1 Minute #shorts**
264K views
- gun safety for the Glock 17**
214K views

Learn How to use a Glock in under 3 minutes
743K views · 5 years ago
TheModernSurvivalist
My Two Books In Amazon!! "The Modern Survival Manual: Surviving the Economic Collapse" ...
2:54

How To Use / Shoot a GLOCK Handgun for Beginners!
946K views · 3 years ago
DuncanMeter
Please consider donating to the channel if you enjoy this video! All donations help keep the chan
Intro | How to check if the firearm is loaded | Loading the Magazine | Disassembly
12:29

crime scene investigation

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For Teachers For Students 20,000+ Video Libr

Crime Scene Definition, Investigation & Examples - Video & Lesson

Introduction to Crime Scenes
415K views · 9 years ago
University of Derby
Dr Ian Turner from the University of Derby introduces the concept of c
0:34 The work of the crime scene investigator, or CSI, is a key part
CC
4:05



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[Library of Congress](#)

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[British Library](#)

Academic Libraries

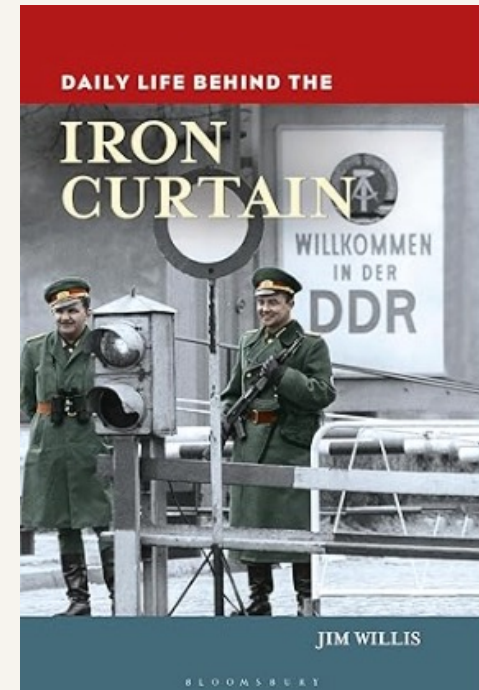
Local Libraries: Books, Databases, & Digital
newspapers: past through present

Library Consortia: for example, Link+ consortium in CA & NV;
CLIC consortium in CO

[Daily Life in...](#) series by Greenwood Press

[Google Maps](#)

Travel Guides





WorldCat Results Page - Example

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Practical homicide investigation : tactics, procedures, and forensic techniques
Author: [Vernon J. Geberth](#) (Author)
Summary: Renowned for being THE definitive resource for homicide investigators, Practical Homicide Investigation: Tactics, Procedures, and Forensic Techniques details the recognized protocols used by
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Law

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14 miles away

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Recommendations provided by a third-party AI service. Only title and author data is shared.



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Picture of the day



Lobby of the [New Town Hall in Hanover](#)





SinC NorCal Resources for Writers

<https://www.sincnorcal.org/resources-for-writers/>

SISTERS IN CRIME

Northern California Chapter



HOME JOIN/RENEW CHAPTER EVENTS ▾ ANTHOLOGIES ▾ NEWSLETTER ABOUT US ▾ **RESOURCES FOR WRITERS** MEMBERS ONLY

Resources for Writers

Peggy Lucke is teaching a class on writing at UC Extension. In preparing for the class she compiled a fine list of resources for writers, and she consented to having it posted on our website. Here's the list:

MYSTERY WRITING:

How to Write a Mystery, edited by Lee Child with Laurie R. King

Mastering Suspense, Structure, and Plot, by Jane Cleland

How to Write Killer Historical Mysteries, by Kathy Lynn Emerson

Writing and Selling Your Mystery Novel, Hallie Ephron*

How to Write a Damn Good Mystery, by James Frey

Writing Mysteries, by (ahem) Margaret Lucke*

You Can Write a Mystery, by Gillian Roberts*

Don't Murder Your Mystery, by Chris Roerden

Crime and Thriller Writing, by Michelle Spring and Laurie R. King

How to Write Killer Fiction, by Carolyn Wheat

FOR THE MORE PHILOSOPHICAL ASPECTS:

Ethics, Evil, and Fiction, by Colin McGinn

BY EXPERTS:

I Love a Cop: What Families Need to Know, by Ellen Kirschman

Counseling Cops: What Clinicians Need To Know, by Ellen Kirschman

Police Procedure (and his blogs), by Lee Lofland

400 Things a Cop Knows, by Adam Plantinga*

Dr. JP's Pick Your Poison Podcast

GENERAL FICTION RESOURCES:

The Plot Whisperer and its companion workbook, by Martha Alderson

The Art of Character, by David Corbett

The Elements of Eloquence, by Mark Forsyth

Write Away: One Novelist's Approach to Fiction and the Writing Life, by Elizabeth C

On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft, by Stephen King

Steering the Craft, by Ursula LeGuin

The Fire in Fiction, by Donald Maass

Writing the Breakout Novel, by Donald Maass

Story, by Robert McKee

The Sense of Style, by Steven Pinker



Books, Webinars, and Other Resources for for Mystery Writers

[Mystery Writing – Reference](#), from Gotham Writers

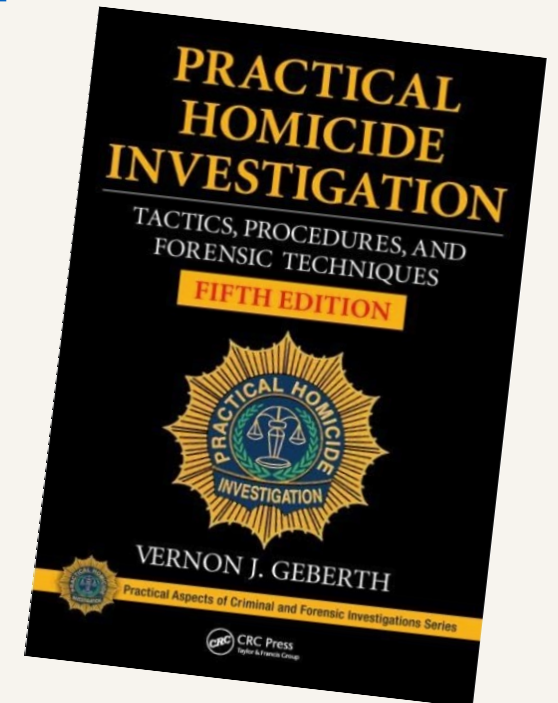
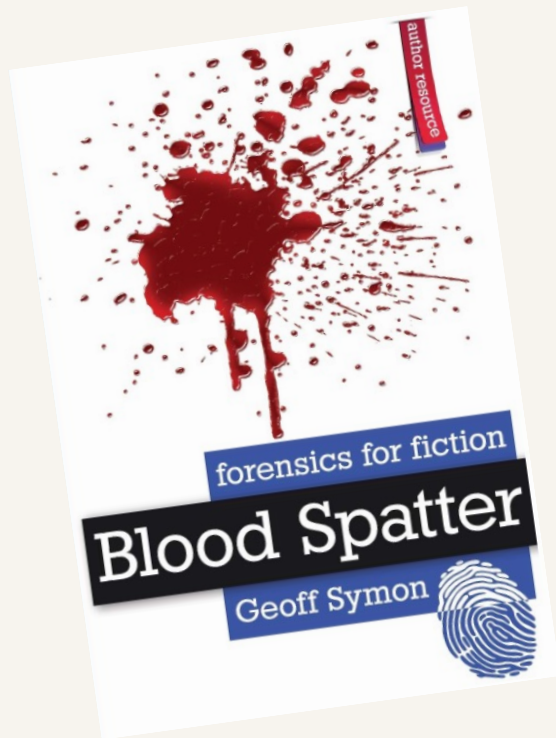
[Practical Aspects of Criminal & Forensic Investigations](#)

Howdunit Series: listed in [GoodReads](#), in [Amazon](#)

[Jane Cleland's Free Monthly Webinars](#)

[Murder and Mayhem: A Doctor Answers Medical and Forensic Questions for Mystery Writers](#)

Ask an Expert





On the Web



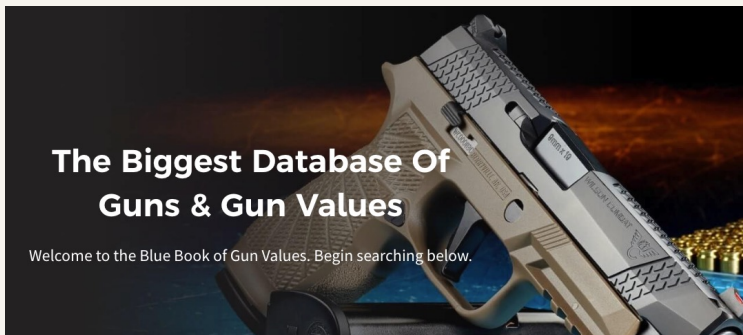
Medical: [MedlinePlus](#), [CDC](#), [Medcrimes Podcast](#), [Autopsy Technique](#)

Natl Institute of Justice's [Crime Scene Examination](#): courts, equipment, cold cases, etc.

[U.S. Crime Stats](#) (2015-2019), incl. murder victims by weapon; [CDC Fastats/Homicide](#)

Poisons: [Pick Your Poison Podcast](#), Dr. JP

[N. New England Poison Center](#), 150+ poisons alphabetized



Interpol > [Crimes](#): drug trafficking, crimes against children, terrorism...

Weapons: [Blue Book of Gun Values](#)



Forensic Anthropology & Entomology

Forensic anthropology:

“[Bone Whispering](#),” Smithsonian Science

“[Unearthing Bones for 20 Years at the ‘Body Farm,’](#)” FBI, 2019

“[If These Bones Could Speak](#),” U-Alabama Birmingham, Ellen Sullivan, 2023

Forensic entomology:

“[The Use of Insects in Investigations](#),” National Library of Medicine

“[Insects at the Scene of the Crime](#),” Amateur Entomologists’ Society



The [blowfly](#) *Lucilia sericata* is a species of both veterinary and forensic importance.



Police Procedure



[The Writer's Police Academy](#), KillerCon: WI Dept of Justice instructors; hands-on training

[Doing Police Procedural Research](#), Jeff Mariotte, 7 August 2022

[The Graveyard Shift](#), blog by Lee Lofland, procedure, investigation, forensics, writing craft

[Officer.com](#), a Cop Shop with categories: check right sidebar categories to see what cops use

[Writers Digest](#), "Seven tips for writing police procedurals that readers love," Russ Thomas 2021

[Writers Digest](#), "Six tips for writing a great police procedural," Carrie Smith 2017



Artificial Intelligence

[AI in the Criminal Justice System](#)

MIT and Stanford alum, AI program for high school students, 2024

[Artificial Intelligence in Thrillers](#)

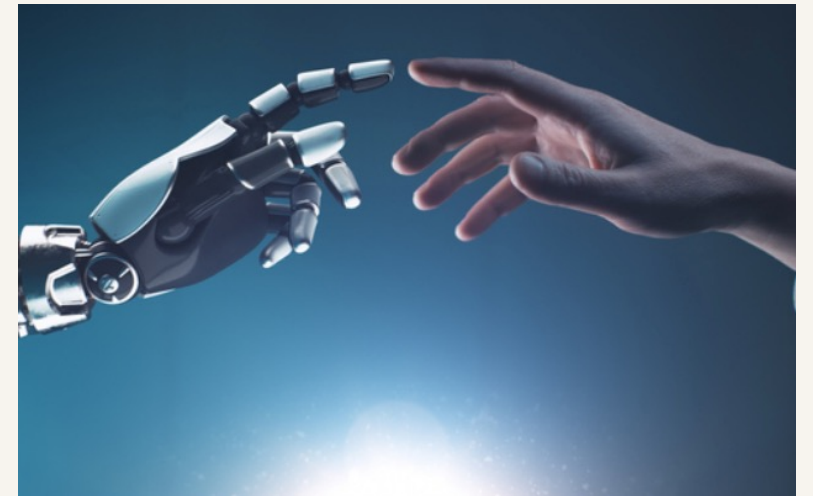
Adam Saint, legal expert, mathematician published in *Lancet*, 2022

[Artificial Intelligence and the Crime Novel](#)

Joe Souza, Maine Crime Writers, 2021



Recent Novels:
The Perfect Wife, JP Delaney
Klara and the Sun, Kazuo Ishiguro





BV Lawson's "In Reference to Murder"

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