

# Who Done It?

Volume 22, Issue 2



February March 2019

## This and That for March

### What's Next

**March 25**  
Ruth Ware  
Teresa Burrell

**April 22**  
Reporters

**May 22**  
Lou Berney

**June 24**  
Maine, Vermont and  
Massachusetts

### Vital Details

**Meeting Time**  
2 PM except for special  
events,

**Meeting Day**  
4th Mon. except on  
holidays

**Meeting Place -**  
Community Room of  
Public Library

**Location -**  
18181 Imperial Highway  
Yorba Linda, CA

**News Editor**  
ktlbevers@roadrunner.com

All author information can be  
found by googling the au-  
thor's name on the internet.

This newsletter is not only coming late, but also rather incomplete. There is few member reports and I've decided to keep a list of those that I get and add each month... so come December I can regurgitate your lists and ratings. But for this month I am not including the few I got. So now for odds and ends of internet news

### THE NIGHT FIRE by Michael Connelly due in October

Harry Bosch and LAPD Detective Renée Ballard come together again on the murder case that obsessed Bosch's mentor, the man who trained him to be a homicide detective. Back when Harry Bosch was just a rookie homicide detective, he had an inspiring mentor who taught him to take the work personally and light the fire of relentlessness for every case. Now that mentor, J.J. Thompson, is dead, but after his funeral his widow hands Bosch a murder book that Thompson took with him when he left the LAPD 20 years before — the unsolved killing of a troubled young man in an alley used for drug deals. PS: Mickey Haller will be in *The Night Fire*, too.

### Sue Grafton Memorial Award Nominees Announced

The Mystery Writers of America, partnering with G.P. Putnam's Son, has created the Sue Grafton Memorial Award, honoring the best novel in a series featuring a female protagonist "with empathy but also with savvy, intelligence and wit." The nominees for the inaugural Sue Grafton Memorial Award are as follows:

PERISH, by Lisa Black , featuring forensic expert Maggie Gardner  
SHELL GAME, by Sara Paretsky, featuring private investigator V.I. Warshawski  
CITY OF SECRETS, by Victoria Thompson, featuring "counterfeit lady" Elizabeth Miles  
A FORGOTTEN PLACE, by Charles Todd, featuring battlefield nurse Bess Crawford  
TO DIE BUT ONCE, by Jacqueline Winspear, featuring psychologist & investigator Masie Dobbs

The inaugural Sue Grafton Memorial Award will be presented at the Edgar Awards Banquet in New York City on April 25.

### Inside you will find...

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## Due in March (a little bit edited—but not enough)

**Abramowitz, Adam.** *A Town Called Malice*. A Boston bike messenger becomes involved when a rock legend suspected of murdering his girlfriend reappears after 30 years on the lam, and begins to suspect that his gambler father now suffering from Alzheimer's may have a connection to the crime.

**Berry, Steve.** *The Malta Exchange*. Cotton Malone is in Italy hunting for letters between Churchill and Mussolini that disappeared in 1945 in a case that involves the Knights of Malta, a papal conclave, and an explosive secret from WWII.

**Blaedel, Sara.** *Her Father's Secret*. Having decided to remain in Wisconsin after inheriting her father's funeral home, Ilke Jensen becomes involved in the murder of a neighbor woman who had been a close friend of her father and tied to the secrets of his past.

**Booth, Claire.** *A Deadly Turn*. Branson County sheriff Hank Worth investigates when six teenagers are killed in a traffic accident, and one of the dead was stabbed, despite not having jurisdiction in the third of this excellent series.

**Box, C.J.** *Wolf Pack*. Joe Pickett's return to work as a game warden is complicated when four bodies are found in the park and he fears that a violent Sinaloa cartel is moving in to the area.

**Brittany, Lynn.** *Murder in Belgravia*. In the first of a new series set in 1915 in London, a Scotland Yard detective assembles a group of sharp, educated women to help with his investigation when an aristocrat is murdered in a case that takes the group from the townhouses of high society to London's seedy underbelly.

**Buckley, Carla.** *The Liar's Child*. A woman in a federal witness program is relocated to the Outer Banks of North Carolina before she testifies in a major trial, and despite warnings to maintain a low profile, she becomes involved with the neglected neighboring children and must rescue them when an impending hurricane threatens them all.

**Chase, Julie.** *Cat Got Your Crown*. When the obnoxious emcee of a pet pageant in New Orleans's Garden District is murdered, Lacy must take time out from baking pet treats to collar a killer.

**Childs, Laura.** *Broken Bone China*. When the CEO of a software company is killed after the hot-air balloon he was in was targeted by a drone, Theodosia decides to investigate the death, particularly when the fiancé of one of her friends becomes a suspect in the murder.

**Coben, Harlan.** *Run Away*. When a man sees his daughter, who left home addicted to drugs, and a violent boyfriend in Central Park, he decides to follow her in hopes of bringing her home, but he finds himself involved in a dangerous world that threatens him and his family.

**Daugherty, Christi.** *A Beautiful Corpse*. Savannah reporter Harper McClain investigates the murder of a law student and bartender in a case that has explosive political ramifications when she discovers that the woman had been stalked by the scion of a powerful family

**Downie, David.** *The Gardener of Eden*. When a mysterious stranger arrives in a rundown Pacific Northwest town, it turns out that he is a retired judge who has returned to discover what happened to his first love, an investigation that horrifies the townspeople who would prefer to keep their secrets hidden.

**Downing, Samantha.** *My Lovely Wife*. A wickedly satisfying debut thriller about a suburban couple whose marriage has gotten a little too interesting when they realize that they must find a way to get away with murder. Delightfully creepy.

**Elo, Elisabeth.** *Finding Katerina M.* An American doctor who thought that her Ukrainian grandparents died in a Stalinist labor camp is surprised to discover that her grandmother is still alive and living in Siberia, but she also discovers that her grandmother is in danger from the regime of Vladimir Putin when she goes to visit her in Siberia, and helping her grandmother might mean betraying her country.

**Fairstein, Linda.** *Blood Oath*. ADA Alex Cooper returns from leave to be assigned the case of a young woman who claims that she was sexually assaulted while testifying in a landmark federal trial years before, and disturbingly the case becomes intertwined with rumors of a sexually-abusive colleague and the mysterious collapse of another.

**Fielding, Joy.** *All the Wrong Places*. Four women, friends, family, rivals, turn to online dating to find companionship only to find themselves in the crosshairs of a tech-savvy killer.

**Fluke, Joanne.** *The Chocolate Cream Pie Murder*. Hannah's life is upended once again when a body is found in her bedroom after an unexpected visit from her shifty ex, so she and an old flame join forces to serve up justice before someone takes a slice out of her.

**Fox, Candice.** *Redemption Point*. A PI in Queensland must join forces with another when the father of an abducted teenager decides on revenge and his only hope of survival is to find the girl himself.

**Fredericks, Mariah.** *A Death of No Importance*. A lady's maid in 1910 Manhattan decides to help out her employers when the playboy fiancé of the daughter is found dead with his eyes gouged out and the suspects range from his jilted fiancée to the families of those killed in a mining disaster on his property to anarchists. *PW* gave this first mystery a starred review.

**Gates, Eva.** *Something Read, Something Dead*. Librarian Lucy Richardson hosts a bridal shower for her cousin at the

Lighthouse Library, but when one of the bride's more irritating cousins drops dead after eating a gluten-free treat prepared specially for her, Lucy must make sure that the bride is free to wear her wedding dress and not an orange jumpsuit.

**Giolli, Veronica.** *Whispers in the Wind* In the first of a series featuring a Native American investigator in Nevada, a fraud investigator returns home to the reservation for her best friend's funeral and a vision convinces her that her friend did not commit suicide, but was murdered.

**Goodman, Carol.** *The Night Visitors* . A woman escaping an abusive relationship with her young son finds refuge with a social worker who takes them to her large home in the middle of the woods near a small New York town as a blizzard gains strength, and both women are hiding secrets in this novel of mistaken identities, redemption, and revenge.

**Griffiths, Elly.** *The Stranger Diaries* . A gothic standalone mystery featuring a single mother who accepts a teaching job at school in a West Sussex village that was home to a Victorian writer famous for his ghost stories, but when her colleagues begin dying in ways reminiscent of his famous story, she investigates in a combination of the occult, forbidden desire, and murder.

**Hamilton, Glen Erik.** *Mercy River* . When he agrees to help a fellow veteran accused of murder, Van Shaw is plunged into a dangerous world of stolen opioids, deadly mercenaries, and dark family secrets.

**Haynes, Dana - St. Nicholas Salvage & Wrecking [NS]** Michael Patrick Finnigan was a New York cop and a US Marshal who figured out that following the rules doesn't always get the job done. Katalin Fiero Dahar was a soldier, spy, and assassin for Spain, who figured out that breaking the rules doesn't always get the job done.

**Heller, Peter.** *The River* Two college students on a whitewater canoeing trip in northern Canada are caught when a wildfire works its way north through the forest, but when they hear a couple arguing and later they see a single man canoeing by their camp, they realize that they have to contend with human violence as well as nature's fury.

**Hyde, Katherine Bolger.** *Cyanide with Christie* . Literature professor Emily Cavanaugh has taken a sabbatical to turn a property she inherited into a writer's retreat, but tensions among her first guests lead to a poisoning and she must investigate in the third in this cozy series.

**Iles, Greg.** *Cemetery Road*. A journalist returns to his small Mississippi hometown because his father is dying and his mother needs help with the family newspaper, but when the wife of the most powerful man in town is found shot in her bed and her husband is put on trial, he joins forces with his former girlfriend to

uncover the shattering secrets that led to the crime.

**Jacobs, R.J.** *And Then You Were Gone* A woman suffering from bi-polar disorder awakens while on a sailing trip to find her boyfriend has disappeared from the boat, but when she finds evidence that he was murdered and she becomes a person of interest for the authorities, she must hope that her mental condition will not deteriorate before she can prove her innocence.

**James, Terry.** *Heir Apparent* . A hard-drinking PI is accused of a murder he didn't commit—or did he?—in a Chandleresque noir novel filled with twists and turns.

**Kalla, Daniel.** *We All Fall Down* . A NATO infectious disease expert and a WHO investigator join forces to stop an outbreak of the plague, a search that leads them to an ancient monastery and a medieval manuscript that may hold the clue to the reappearance of the deadly scourge.

**Kenneth, TR.** *A Room Full of Night* . A burnt-out journalist helping a friend move finds a piece of cloth with a plea for help and an address in Berlin behind an oil painting, so they investigate and find a sealed apartment that has not been lived in since 1942, but the investigation unleashes a nefarious plot involving remnants of the Third Reich.

**Kistler, Bonnie.** *House on Fire* . In a debut novel of domestic suspense, a blended family is torn apart when a drunk driving accident leaves one child dead and the other accused of manslaughter—although he insists that he wasn't driving.

**Lang, Essie.** *Trouble on the Books* In the first of a new series set in a mystery bookshop, a former book editor turns bookseller when she returns to her upstate New York hometown, but the murder of the volunteer coordinator at the tourist attraction where the bookstore is located causes her to investigate with the help of a hunky Coast Guard investigator.

**Lansdale, Joe R.** *The Elephant of Surprise* . PIs Hap and Leonard help a woman with half her tongue cut out fleeing a pair of heavily-armed goons during a flood in East Texas only to discover that she survived a mob hit and now the boss is coming after all of them..

**Lelchuk, S.A.** *Save Me from Dangerous Men* . A badass bookseller who punishes abusive men as a sideline to her second job as a PI finds herself and her whistleblower client in danger when men from the tech company where she works come after both of them in a debut with a scary-strong female protagonist. I just hope that this won't blow my cover as a badass bookseller.

**Leon, Donna.** *Unto Us a Son is Given*. Brunetti's father-in-law asks him to investigate when his elderly friend decides to adopt a young man, ensuring that he will inherit all of his wealth, but after the friend dies and a woman in Venice for the funeral is murdered Brunetti must solve the mystery of the friend's life to find a killer. Signed.

**Les Becquets, Diane.** *The Last Woman in the Forest*. A woman who works with rescue dogs to help protect endangered wildlife falls in love with her mentor, but a tragic accident causes her to suspect that not only is he the man she thought he was, but he could be the killer of four women, a suspicion that puts her in danger.

**Lynch, Christine.** *The Italian Party* A perceptive debut set in Italy in 1956 where a young American couple has recently moved, but their lives are filled with secrets, including the fact that the husband is not the manager of a tractor company, but a CIA agent who has come to Italy in part to be with his lover from Yale, and while he engages in espionage activities, she tries to find a missing local teenager.

**Macallister, Greer -** *Woman 99* [NS] When Charlotte Smith's wealthy parents commit her beloved sister Phoebe to the infamous Goldengrove Asylum, Charlotte knows there's more to the story than madness. She risks everything and follows her sister inside, surrendering her real identity as a privileged young lady of San Francisco society to become a nameless inmate, *Woman 99*

**Margolin, Phillip.** *The Perfect Alibi* A defense attorney entangled in the case of a University of Oregon football star released on bail after having been convicted on DNA evidence that was later found at the scene of another attack during his imprisonment, investigates when the law partner of his former defense attorney is murdered.

**Martinson, T. J. -** *The Reign of the Kingfisher* - 30 years ago a superhero tried to save Chicago. Now the city is again under siege, in this gritty, suspenseful, and beautifully written novel from award-winning debut author T.J. Martinson

**May, Peter.** *The Man with no Face* In an early mystery by May available in the U.S. for the first time, a journalist is sent to Brussels in 1979 during a political crisis, which turns deadly when a fellow journalist and a British politician are found shot dead and the only witness is the journalist's autistic daughter who claims they were killed by a "man with no face."

**McMahon, John.** *The Good Detective*. A police detective in a Georgia town beset by demons since the death of his wife and child fears that he may have killed the chief suspect in the murder of a black teenager, but further investigation reveals that the death may be part of a conspiracy going back to the time of the Civil War.

**Mukherjee, Abir.** *Smoke and Ashes*. A British police detective in Calcutta in 1921 must solve two murders while keeping his opium addiction, a result of his experiences in the Great War, secret, and must rely on his Indian sergeant to help him.

**O'Connor, Carlene.** *Murder in an Irish Pub*. When a poker player from Dublin is found swinging from a rope in a room in the Kilbane pub, the Garda assume it was suicide, but Si-obhán and the man's pregnant widow both suspect foul play.

**Parks, Brad.** *The Last Act*. A struggling stage actor is hired by the FBI to play the part of a low-level felon in a minimum security prison in order to befriend a recently convicted banker and discover the whereabouts of documents that could lead to the arrest of the head of a violent drug cartel, but he soon finds out that the drug cartel is also searching for the documents and he must give the performance of his life to stay alive.

**Pattison, Eliot.** *Bones of the Earth* Inspector Shan realizes that he must solve the murder of an American archaeologist in a case that plunges him in a power struggle between the Tibetans and the government in Beijing in the last of the series that began with *The Skull Mantra*.

**Pomare, JP.** *Call Me Evie*. A twisty debut novel of suspense about a teenaged girl who finds herself held captive by a man who claims he is saving her from the consequences of something terrible she did back home in Melbourne—something that she cannot remember at all.

**Rosenfelt, David.** *Black and Blue*. A New Jersey state police officer still suffering from the amnesia caused by being shot in the line of duty reopens a cold case when a new murder occurs and there is a ballistics match, and revisiting a case he can no longer remember allows him to look at it in a new light.

**Ryan, Annelise.** *Dead of Winter*. Medicolegal investigator Mattie Winston is called in when a teenaged girl is left at the ER by a mysterious man who soon disappears along with a younger girl, and after the teenager dies of her injuries, she investigates in a dark case involving child abduction and human trafficking.

**Swanson, Peter.** *Before She Knew Him*. When she and her husband move to a town outside of Boston, a woman with a history of bipolar disorder finds herself becoming obsessed with their neighbor, believing that he is somehow involved with the unsolved murder of a young man, but she can't be sure that her obsession isn't part of her illness—until she realizes that he knows she knows.

**Tate, Courtney Evan.** *I'll Be Watching You* After her teenaged daughter disappears, thought drowned, her mother discovers pornographic images of her on her laptop and begins investigating to find out who in their small community might be responsible.



# Teresa Burrell



Teresa Burrell has dedicated her life to helping children and their families in both the courtroom and the classroom.

As an attorney in San Diego, Burrell maintained a private law practice for twelve years, which specialized in domestic, criminal, and civil

cases. Her work in juvenile court focused on representing abused minors and juvenile delinquents. Burrell has received several awards and special recognition from the San Diego Volunteer Lawyers for her countless hours of pro bono work with children and their families.

Burrell has also enjoyed a satisfying career as a teacher. She has taught children of all ages with diverse backgrounds and special needs. After creating an after-school program that kept kids off the street, she received a community service award.

Now in semi-retirement in California, Burrell continues to educate groups about social issues impacting children and write novels, many of which are inspired by actual legal cases. She is the author of The Advocate Series which now contains nine novels.

## The Books

1. [The Advocate \(2009\)](#)
2. [The Advocate's Betrayal \(2010\)](#)
3. [The Advocate's Conviction \(2011\)](#)
4. [The Advocate's Dilemma \(2012\)](#)
5. [The Advocate's ExParte \(2013\)](#)
6. [The Advocate's Felony \(2014\)](#)
7. [The Advocate's Geocache \(2015\)](#)
8. [The Advocate's Homicides \(2016\)](#)
9. [The Advocate's Illusion \(2018\)](#)

The library has only the first book. They are all available on Amazon as Kindle edition for usually \$3.99. Paperbacks may also be purchased. Teresa will be speaking at our Volunteer Luncheon in April.

**Thomas, Wendell. *Drowned Under*** . In the second in this comic series, a travel agent agrees to investigate when her ex-husband's parents go missing from an Australian cruise, but when she arrives, she discovers that her friend who had offered to help her has been murdered, and while she investigates—with no help from the cruise line—she discovers that the murder may be linked to her in-laws' disappearance and the heist of the last surviving Tasmanian tiger.

**Webb, Betty. *Desert Redemption*** Scottsdale PI Lena Jones investigates a religious compound promoting a mishmash of Native American symbolism and philosophy, and when a body is found in the desert, she sees a link to the center and later a link to the mystery of her own life in the final book in the series.

**Willocks, Tim. *Memo from Turner*** . An incorruptible Cape Town police officer vows to bring to justice the two white men involved in a hit-and-run accident that killed an unidentified black teenager, despite his superior's resistance to the idea because one of the men is the son a millionaire politician.

**Winspear, Jacqueline. *The American Agent*** Driving an ambulance during the Blitz in 1940, Maisie Dobbs meets an American journalist found murdered in her flat the next morning, and when Scotland Yard enlists her help in solving the case, she is reunited with an attractive American agent.

**Winspear, Jacqueline *What Would Masie Do*** A one-of-a-kind illustrated companion to the best-selling Maisie Dobbs series, which invites readers into the beloved heroine's world and shares her wisdom and inspiration.

## From William Kent Krueger

But my greatest joy in the coming year will be the release this fall of ***THIS TENDER LAND***, the companion novel to *Ordinary Grace*. I've been at work on the manuscript for three years, and I'm deeply in love with it. Set in southern Minnesota in the summer of 1932, well into the Great Depression, it's the story of four orphans running from the law because they've committed a terrible crime, but for the all the right reasons. A manhunt has been launched to capture them, so they can't take to the roads. They're afraid to ride the rails, as everyone was doing in the Depression, because the railroads were patrolled by men called bulls, private police who had a reputation for incredible cruelty. They choose instead to take to the rivers. They canoe a river called the Gilead to the Minnesota River, follow the Minnesota to the Mississippi, and their intent is to canoe the Mississippi all the way to Saint Louis, where they believe they have family and will be safe. I have always wanted to write an updated version of **HUCKLEBERRY FINN**. This is my **HUCKLEBERRY FINN**.

# Ruth Ware

Ruth Ware grew up in Lewes, in Sussex and studied at Manchester University, before settling in North London. She has worked as a waitress, a bookseller, in Paris a teacher of English as a foreign language and a press officer. Ruth kicked off her writing career writing YA novels; writing five under the name Ruth Warburton

Her debut thriller *In a Dark, Dark Wood* was an instant *New York Times* bestseller in the US, and a Richard and Judy pick and *Sunday Times* bestseller in the UK. It was optioned for film by New Line Cinema with Reese Witherspoon attached to produce. The follow up, *The Woman in Cabin 10* was a *New York Times* bestseller.

Since then her books have appeared on bestseller lists around the world, and all have been optioned for either film or TV.

Ware's writing style is often compared to that of Agatha Christie. Ware has admitted to being unconsciously influenced by Christie and other mystery novelists of that time. Ware's protagonists are usually ordinary women who find themselves in dangerous situations involving a crime. The first two of Ware's novels feature a murder mystery with a group of people trapped, or otherwise restricted from immediately escaping the dangerous environment. Christie was famously known for utilizing this plot device, in novels such as *MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS*. Ware and Christie both choose settings and situations that foster the sense of dread that propels their characters to paranoia and often they react violently as a result. These environments create a sense of isolation for the events to unfold in. Ware's settings play a key role in drawing in the reader and are just as essential and integral to her story as the characters.

When asked, Ruth spoke about the inspiration behind her novel and the influence of Agatha Christie.

*"I can't remember when I read my first Agatha Christie but I was perhaps twelve or thirteen, maybe even younger. Reading her books wasn't my first introduction to her world – I had been watching the Poirot and Miss Marple TV series over my mum's shoulder for years, I was hooked, and raced through her best-known works before moving on to the more obscure ones: Was it the limpidly clear prose? Agatha Christie's fame doesn't rest on her writing style, but it is clean, clear and a masterclass in conveying maximum impact with the minimum of showy*



*language and imagery. I briefly taught English as a foreign language and found that Christie was one of the writers most often read as an introduction to 'grown up' English language texts, probably because*

*her books are short and her prose is clean, uncluttered and easy to decode, unlike her plots.*

*Or maybe it was the sense of wrongs righted and balance regained which appealed to my teenage sense of justice. As an adult I love reading the likes of Karin Fossum and Susan Hill, where the end of the book doesn't necessarily mean the villain is bang to rights and the mystery unravelled, but as a teenager I wanted a more clear-cut kind of Christie's justice.. Whatever the appeal, I. Agatha Christie is one of those writers who have become so much part of the landscape that it's hard to imagine a literary world without her detective characters, almost as impossible as envisaging one without Sherlock Holmes.*

*It probably wasn't surprising therefore that she should have had an effect on my first attempt at a crime novel. I knew as I was writing that I owed Christie a debt of inspiration, and Nina's reference to And Then There Were None was a kind of tongue-in-cheek admission of that. . In a Dark, Dark Wood is more psychological thriller than crime puzzle, and emotions run high in a way that I think Christie would probably have disdained. The whole set up, with the closed set, the small cast of characters, and the unfolding clues is pretty much directly inspired by all the Christie novels I read as a child. Like Murder on the Orient Express or The Sittaford Mystery my characters are snow-bound, out of communication, unable to summon help.*

## The Books

[In a Dark, Dark Wood \(2015\)](#)

[The Woman in Cabin 10 \(2016\)](#)

[The Lying Game \(2017\)](#)

[The Death of Mrs. Westaway \(2018\)](#)

[The Turn of the Key \(2019\)](#)