Forget Sherlock, Poirot, and Miss Marple

These are Some Real Famous Detectives

Compiled by Monica Williams

Barron, Stephanie. Jane and the Unpleasantness at Scargrave Manor: Being a Jane Austen Mystery. Jane Austen escapes from her disastrous rejection of Mr. Bigg-Withers to a house party hosted by her good friend the newly wed Isobel, Countess of Scargrave. Isobel is recently returned from her honeymoon. Her husband dies under mysterious circumstances, apparently poisoned. Jane is drawn into the investigation when Isobel asks her to read an incriminating note that was sent by Isobel’s former lady’s maid. The note alleges that Isobel killed her husband so she could marry his nephew and heir. Other titles in this series include: Jane and the Man of the Cloth, and Jane and the Wandering Eye and more.

Brandreth, Gyles. Oscar Wilde & a Death of No Importance. A young artist’s model has been murdered. Oscar Wilde recruits friends Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and poet Robert Sherard to investigate. When they arrive at the scene of the crime they find no evidence, save a single splatter of blood high up on the wall. Their investigation takes them across the British Isles to Scotland and even leads them into France. The story is based on a real murder, that of Billy Wood. Billy Wood's murder served as the inspiration for The Portrait of Dorian Grey. Other titles in this series include: Oscar Wilde and the Ring of Death and Oscar Wilde and the Dead Man’s Smile and more.

Crider, Bill. We’ll Always Have Murder: A Humphrey Bogart Mystery. The one & only Humphrey Bogart is being blackmailed. If he does not give in to the blackmailer’s demands, he will be framed for murder. Bogey teams up with washed up Hollywood private eye, Terry Scott. Their investigation takes them into the dark heart of the City of Angels.
Hall, Robert L.  
Benjamin Franklin Takes the Case.
Benjamin Franklin is in London on a diplomatic mission. He patronizes a local print shop and meets young Nick Handy, a poor mistreated orphan. Nick reports that the shop's owner Ebenezer Inch has been murdered in a most gruesome manner. Franklin takes the case and takes Nick under his wing. Franklin's investigations lead him to a theft ring and great danger. Other titles in this series include: Benjamin Franklin and a Case of Christmas Murder and Murder at Drury Lane and more.

Hamilton, Barbara.  
The Ninth Daughter: An Abigail Adams Mystery
Boston 1773. Abigail Adams has just set off to visit her good friend and fellow patriot Rebecca Malvern. Along the way she stumbles across a corpse of an unknown woman. A short time later her friend Rebecca has gone missing. Abigail's husband John is accused of murdering the unknown woman. It is up to Abigail to clear his name and find her missing friend. The sequel is A Marked Man.

Harper, Karen.  
The Poison Garden: An Elizabeth I Mystery
Princess Elizabeth is under house arrest at Hatfield. Her sister Mary is Queen and burning all those she calls "heretics". Elizabeth gets word of a plot against the Boleyns. Her cousin Henry Carey barely escapes being hit with a poisoned arrow. Her aunt Mary Boleyn dies, the result of poison shortly after Elizabeth visits her. A veiled woman is believed to be responsible. Elizabeth enlists the help of her governess, her groom, an herbalist with amnesia, and an actor. They all work together to stop the poisoner before striking again. Other titles in this series include The Tidal Poole, and The Twilight Tower.

Heck, Peter.  
Death on the Mississippi
Samuel Clemens, aka Mark Twain, is traveling with his secretary Wentworth Cabot on a lecture tour. Just before Clemens leaves New York, a man is found murdered. He had Clemens' address in his pocket. Clemens finds himself being shadowed by a detective. He thinks this irritating and resolves to solve the case himself. Some old enemies appear while Clemens is on tour, and Clemens has an agenda of his own. Other titles in this series include: A Connecticut Yankee in Criminal Court and The Prince and the Prosecutor and more.

Klein, Daniel.  
Kill Me Tender
Elvis Presley is back from serving in the Army. His fan-club presidents, all teenage girls are dying under mysterious circumstances. Elvis decides to investigate, which is quite a challenge when you are famous. Each victim was killed by a rare Chinese drug. Elvis, himself, begins to receive threats—deadly demos of his own songs. "Kill Me Tender" is just one. Will Elvis find the murderer before his voice is silenced? Other titles in the series include: Blue Suede Clues and Viva Las Vengence and more.

Roosevelt, Elliott.  
Murder and the First Lady
First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt investigates. White House staffer and Congressman's son Philip Garber has been found dead in the apartment of Pamela Rush-Hodgeborne, an English ex-pat who is secretary to the First Lady. Philip has been poisoned, and Pamela is the likely suspect. The two were supposedly involved in a diamond heist in England. Scotland Yard also becomes involved. Other titles in this series include: The Hyde Park Murder and Murder at Hobcaw Barony and more.

Rowland, Laura.  
The Secret Adventures of Charlotte Bronte
Authoress Charlotte Bronte is accused of breaking contract by her publisher George Smith. What her publisher does not know is that the others books were written by her sisters. Anne and Emily. Each of the sisters created a pen name so that their works could be published. However, each sister took Bell as their surname. Charlotte’s publisher believes the same person wrote all the books due to the common surname. The sisters journey to London to prove Charlotte’s innocence. While on the train they meet Isabel White, who is later found murdered. Charlotte becomes involved in trying to snare the culprit. See the sequel Bedlam: The Further Secret Adventures of Charlotte Bronte.

Stuckart, Diane A.S.  
The Queen's Gambit: A Leonardo da Vinci Mystery
This fascinating mystery series is set in the Court of Ludovico Sforza, Duke of Milan. Leonardo da Vinci is the court artist and is assisted by his apprentices. His apprentice Dino is the narrator of the series. As per the Duke’s orders, Leonardo stages an elaborate live chess game. One of the players is murdered. The Duke tasks Leonardo to find out who is killer. Leonardo recruits his talented young apprentice to help catch a killer, but Dino has a secret of his own. Other titles in the series include: "Portrait of a Lady and A Bolt from the Blue."