



SCI-FI & FANTASY DETECTIVES

Mysteries still need to be solved, whether in the future, on another planet or in the realm of the elves & monsters.

[Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency](#) by Douglas Adams

In this inspired story, detective Dirk Gently tries to solve the mysteries of the universe and the human soul. As Gently whizzes about the world, the universe and time itself, a group of eccentric characters helps him find an eccentric cat, solve a murder and save the human race. Also try [The Long Dark Tea-time of the Soul](#).

[The Caves of Steel](#) by Isaac Asimov

Asimov chronicles the unlikely partnership between a New York City detective and a humanoid robot who must learn to work together. When a prominent Spacer is murdered under mysterious circumstances, Det. Baley is ordered to the Outer Worlds to help track down the killer. Then he learned that they had assigned him a partner: R. Daneel Olivaw. Worst of all was that the "R" stood for robot – and his positronic partner was made in the image and likeness of the murder victim! Also try [I, Robot](#).

[The Demolished Man](#) by Alfred Bester

In a world policed by telepaths, Ben Reich plans to commit a crime that hasn't been heard of in 70 years: murder. That's the only option Reich has left, since his company is losing a struggle with its rival that refuses a merger offer. Reich murders his rival and bribes a high-ranking telepath to help him cover his tracks. But while police prefect Lincoln Powell knows Reich is guilty, his telepath's knowledge is a far cry from admissible evidence. This novel won the first ever Hugo Award in 1953; also try Bester's [The Stars My Destination](#).

[Kiln People](#) by David Brin

Albert Morris, a detective in a bizarre future L.A., is investigating copyright violations--to wit, the construction of illegal "dittos," as the disposable bodies are called. The family of an archetypal Mr. Big calls him in, because Mr. Big is up to something, and the family needs some very private investigation.

[Storm Front](#) by Jim Butcher

Meet Harry Dresden: Wizard For Hire. Lost items found. Paranormal Investigations. Advice. Reasonable Rates. Harry also consults for the Chicago PD and on the latest case two people have been murdered using magic. Soon, Harry finds himself in over his head as a dark wizard is now stalking him and the White Council is convening to consider Harry's questionable use of magic. [Fool Moon](#) is next in *The Dresden Files* series.

[The Yiddish Policemen's Union](#) by Michael Chabon (Adult Fiction)

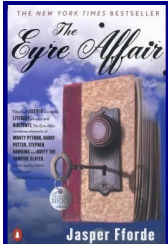
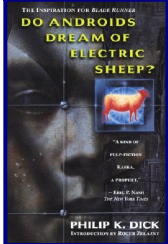
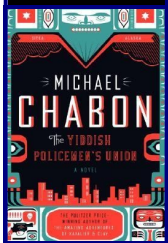
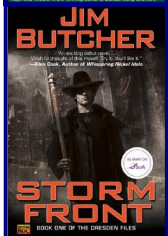
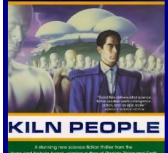
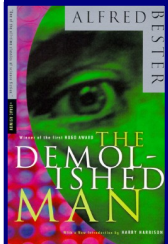
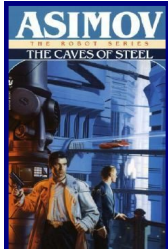
Homicide detective Meyer Landsman has problems: he's an alcoholic, his ex-wife is his new boss, and the temporary Jewish homeland established in Alaska sixty years ago is about to revert to Native American control and 3 million Jews – of which he's one – will be homeless in a new Diaspora. On top of all that someone just killed an eccentric chess genius in Meyer's building. This alternative history tale won the 2007 Nebula Award.

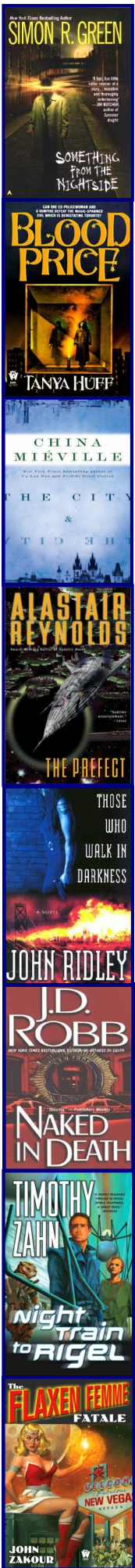
[Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?](#) by Phillip K. Dick

By 2021, the World War had killed millions, driving entire species into extinction and sending mankind off-planet. Life was precious, and artificial life common; companies built animals for pets and androids for labor. But when these androids didn't want to be identified, they just blended in. Rick Deckard was an officially sanctioned bounty hunter whose job was to find rogue androids and to "retire" them. But cornered androids tended to fight back, with deadly results. Also try: [Minority Report](#).

[The Eyre Affair](#) by Jasper Fforde (Adult Fiction)

In an alternative England, circa 1985, where time travel is routine and dodos are the cloned pet of choice, a world where one can literally get lost in literature, Thursday Next, a Special Operative in literary detection, tries to stop the world's Third Most Wanted criminal from kidnapping characters, including Jane Eyre, from works of literature. The *Thursday Next* series continues with [Lost In a Good Book](#); fans may also enjoy his *Nursery Crime* series, beginning with [The Big Over Easy](#) (Mystery).





[The Mocking Program](#) by Alan Dean Foster

Angel Cardenas is a hardworking police detective in 21st-century Los Angeles. But Cardenas is no ordinary cop – as an intuit he possesses the special talent of knowing what others will do in any given situation. When a businessman is found murdered, missing his vital organs and all his money, Cardenas is on the case.

[Something From the Nightside](#) by Simon R. Green

John Taylor, a down-and-out private detective with supernatural abilities, specializes in finding lost things in Nightside. The realm of Nightside is "the secret, hidden, dark heart" of London, a subterranean world where time and reality have no meaning, a place where it's always three in the morning, and something dangerous is definitely lurking right around the corner. [Agents of Light and Darkness](#) is next in the *Nightside* series.

[Blood Price](#) by Tanya Huff

Vicki Nelson is an ex-homicide cop turned private detective. Mike Celluci, Vicki's former partner, is still on the force. Henry Fitzroy is an author of bodice rippers-and a vampire. Together, the trio find themselves caught up in mysteries with a supernatural slant - from demons to werewolves and every otherworldly creature in between. The *Blood* series continues with **Blood Trail**.

[The City and the City](#) by China Mieville

When a woman is murdered in the European city of Beszel, it looks to be a routine case for Inspector Borlú. But as he investigates, evidence points to conspiracies far stranger than anything he could have imagined. Borlú must travel to the only metropolis as strange as his own, Beszel's equal, rival, and intimate neighbor, the rich and vibrant city of Ul Qoma. This is a border crossing like no other, a journey as psychic as it is physical. Working with Ul Qoman detective Qussim Dhatt, the detectives uncover the dead woman's secrets, and soon they begin to suspect a truth that could cost them and those they care about more than their lives.

[The Prefect](#) by Alistair Reynolds

Tom Dreyfus is a Prefect, a law enforcement officer and his beat is the multi-faceted utopian society of the Glitter Band, the teeming hub of a human interstellar empire spanning many worlds. His current case: investigating a murderous attack against one of the habitats that leaves nine hundred people dead, a crime that appalls even a hardened cop like Dreyfus. But then he uncovers something even more dangerous ...

[Those Who Walk in Darkness](#) by John Ridley

Would superpowers such as invulnerability or the ability to fly make humans any more compassionate, reasonable, or sane? Ridley questions the nature of heroism in a near future where cops battle mutated "metanormals" with superpowers. Officer Soledad O'Roark is a successful "freak" killer, unquestioning in her belief that they are dangerous and need to be destroyed. Soledad struggles to find more meaning in her life than just destruction but doubts that she will live to appreciate it as her actions exacerbate the violence.

[Naked in Death](#) by J.D. Robb (Mystery)

Being a cop in the twenty-first century should not be as violent as being one in the twentieth was, since all guns are banned and have become collectors' items. Lieutenant Eve Dallas of the NYPD is stunned to be called to a crime scene where the victim was killed by a gun. Not only is it a brutal murder, the victim, who happened to be the granddaughter of a powerful senator, is a prostitute with a wealthy and famous clientele. The *Eve Dallas* series continues with [Glory in Death](#).

[Nightlife](#) by Rob Thurman

Cal Leandros, who is only half human, holds the fate of the human world in his hands, and he must hide from his father and his otherworldly race, who believe that he is the key to unleashing their hell on Earth. Cal and his half-brother, Niko, soon find themselves the owners of a struggling preternatural detective agency.

[Moonshine](#) is next in the series.

[Night Train to Rigel](#) by Timothy Zahn

When the Quadrail transportation system that connects the galaxy's worlds is threatened by a dangerous military force and a race of addictive coral producers, unemployed investigator Frank Compton is enlisted to prevent the system's takeover. Also try Compton's next adventure in [The Third Lynx](#).

[The Flaxen Femme Fatale](#) by John Zakour

The last freelance P.I. on earth, Zach Johnson has been hired to track down a young beauty who happens to be a deadly secret weapon for the World Council. Figuring girls just want to have fun, he follows Natasha to various vacation destinations, but she eludes him, leaving a trail of destruction in her wake. Zach, however, isn't surprised to discover that things aren't what they seem, and to save the world, he's going to have to find a way to team up with the woman he's supposed to destroy.