



Books Guilty of Killing Your Boredom

Conversations on Mystery, Crime, and Thrillers at
The Bay Area Book Festival

Scott Turow, Walter Mosley, Bradley Spinelli, John Lescroart, Cara Black, Laurie King,
Jussi Adler-Olsen, Hans Olav Lahlum, and more

June 3-4, 2017

Have you ever picked up a detective novel to read before bed and found yourself finishing it as the sun came up? You're not the only one who can't put a good whodunit down. **Mystery, crime, and thrillers** is the second highest-grossing genre of books. Whether you're wondering what makes them so captivating or you're writing one of your own, find out at the [Bay Area Book Festival](#).

Highlights of this year's conversations on **mystery, crime, and thrillers**, which will take place in venues in downtown Berkeley, include:

- **Master of the Legal Thriller: A Conversation with Scott Turow** — Join bestselling author **Scott Turow** for a wide-ranging discussion of Turow's legal thrillers and his long career in the law. This will be Turow's only Bay Area appearance for his new book, *Testimony*. The author of *Presumed Innocent* and ten other widely praised novels, Turow has sold more than 30 million copies worldwide. (Sunday, June 4, 5:00pm, at the Alta Stage at Freight & Salvage)
- **Walter Mosley - Walking the Wild Side** — Twenty-five years ago, **Walter Mosley** introduced us to Easy Rawlins, an Army vet turned private eye, to tell the story of black postwar Los Angeles. Today, with 55 critically acclaimed books, Mosley is one of America's best-known and most beloved living writers. (Former president Bill Clinton named Mosley one of his favorite authors.) His writing is both prolific and spans many genres, from young adult to science fiction to politics. Learn how Mosley crafts his trademark accessibility, along his penchant for creating narratives that both entertain and instruct. (Saturday, June 3, 1:30pm, at the Hotel Shattuck Plaza - Crystal Ballroom, sponsored by Northern California Chapter, Mystery Writers of America)
- **Noir at the Bar** — We present the best way to celebrate the Bay Area's love of noir: Join us to toast local and international mystery writers who have mastered the form. Make Dashiell Hammett proud by ordering a dirty martini (or some other hard-boiled cocktail) and listening to riveting short readings—no more than 8 minutes—from **Walter Mosley, Hans Olav Lahlum, Bill Moody, Heather Haven, Nick**

Mamatas, Mysti Berry, Ann Parker, and Randal Brandt. This will no doubt prove an increasingly rowdy audience of fans and readers. (Saturday, June 3, 5:15pm, at Cornerstone, sponsored by the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, NORLA - Norwegian Literature Abroad, and Norway House Foundation)

- **Thrillers: Secrets of the Craft** — What are the essential ingredients in a captivating thriller? What kinds of characters do you need, and how do you build suspense, anticipation, and dread? Four bestselling thriller authors will reveal the trade secrets of the craft. **John Lescroart's** newest book, *Fatal*, is "a psychological thriller in bed with a homicide investigation." Danish writer **Thomas Rydahl's** hero is "one of the most distinctive detectives you will meet this year." **Bradley Spinelli** is not only a writer but film director, and prolific **Chuck Wendig** brings game design to our panel's list of accomplishments. Moderator **Keith Raffel**, a mystery and thriller writer himself, formerly served as counsel to the Senate Intelligence Committee overseeing the CIA, NSA, and other clandestine three-lettered agencies. (Saturday, June 3, 1:30pm, David Brower Center - Tamalpais Room, sponsored by the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, the Danish Arts Foundation, the Royal Danish Embassy, and Mystery Writers of America, Northern California Chapter)
- **The Art of Investigation: Journalists Meet Crime Writers** — There is a curious connection between crime novels and investigative reporting. Both are called "stories" by their practitioners. Both present victims and an evildoer, whether that be a person or a system, and both work with suspicion, suspense, and a constant assessment of the reliability of sources of information. **Michael Montgomery** is a journalist who has reported on some of the most heinous real-life mysteries around the world. **Erik Axl Sund** is the pseudonym of two Swedish writers whose blockbuster *The Crow Girl* is "a jolting examination of a cycle of abuse and revenge" that "builds a powerful indictment of society's willingness to turn a blind eye toward powerful, privileged abusers preying on the weak" (Booklist, starred review). (Sunday, June 4, 1:15pm, at BAMPFA - Barbro Osher Theater, sponsored by the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, the Center for Investigative Reporting, and Margaret and Will Hearst)

Festival-goer favorite, **Nordic Noir** returns for the third year! Nordic masters **Thomas Rydahl, Hans Olav Lahlum, Vidar Sundstol**, and **Erik Axl Sund** illuminate what makes a thriller thrilling, and how these writers survive the experience (sponsored by the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, the Danish Arts Foundation, the Royal Danish Embassy, the Norway House Foundation, and NORLA - Norwegian Literature Abroad). Hard-boiled mystery writers **Wendy Hornsby, Ellen Kirschman, and Vidar Sundstol** will clue you in on what makes a suspenseful "whodunit?" (sponsored by the Northern California chapter of Mystery Writers of America). Bestselling Danish writer **Jussi Adler-Olsen** (creator of the Department Q novels, the latest of which is *The Hanging Girl*) will share insights on his career and the process of crafting international sensations (Sponsored by the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, the Danish Arts Foundation, and the Royal Danish Embassy).

For other sessions focusing on mystery, crime, and thrillers [see the full schedule](#).

Festival speakers, including the mystery, crime, and thriller authors, are available for interviews by credentialed members of the press via email in or Skype in advance of the festival, or in person over the weekend event. Outlet must be identified and assignment secured before the interview.

The festival logo and other images are [available here](#), and author photos are available by request. Please contact Anna Pulley, anna@bayboofest.org.