



# Mystery Writers of America

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January 22, 2020, New York, NY - **Mystery Writers of America** is proud to announce, as we celebrate the 211<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Edgar Allan Poe, the Nominees for the 2020 Edgar Allan Poe Awards, honoring the best in mystery fiction, non-fiction and television published or produced in 2019. The Edgar® Awards will be presented to the winners at our 74<sup>th</sup> Gala Banquet, April 30, 2020 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, New York City.

## BEST NOVEL

**Fake Like Me** by Barbara Bourland (Hachette Book Group – Grand Central Publishing)  
**The Stranger Diaries** by Elly Griffiths (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)  
**The River** by Peter Heller (Penguin Random House – Alfred A. Knopf)  
**Smoke and Ashes** by Abir Mukherjee (Pegasus Books)  
**Good Girl, Bad Girl** by Michael Robotham (Simon & Schuster - Scribner)

## BEST FIRST NOVEL BY AN AMERICAN AUTHOR

**My Lovely Wife** by Samantha Downing (Penguin Random House - Berkley)  
**Miracle Creek** by Angie Kim (Farrar Straus and Giroux – Sarah Crichton Books)  
**The Good Detective** by John McMahon (Penguin Random House – G.P. Putnam's Sons)  
**The Secrets We Kept** by Lara Prescott (Penguin Random House – Alfred A. Knopf)  
**Three-Fifths** by John Vercher (Polis Books – Agora Books)  
**American Spy** by Lauren Wilkinson (Penguin Random House – Random House)

## BEST PAPERBACK ORIGINAL

**Dread of Winter** by Susan Alice Bickford (Kensington Publishing)  
**Freedom Road** by William Lashner (Amazon Publishing – Thomas & Mercer)  
**Blood Relations** by Jonathan Moore (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt – Mariner Books)  
**February's Son** by Alan Parks (Europa Editions – World Noir)  
**The Hotel Neversink** by Adam O'Fallon Price (Tin House Books)  
**The Bird Boys** by Lisa Sandlin (Cinco Puntos Press)

## BEST FACT CRIME

**The Ghosts of Eden Park: The Bootleg King, the Women Who Pursued Him, and the Murder that Shocked Jazz-Age America** by Karen Abbott (Penguin Random House - Crown)

**The Less People Know About Us: A Mystery of Betrayal, Family Secrets, and Stolen Identity** by Axton Betz-Hamilton (Hachette Book Group – Grand Central Publishing)

**American Predator: The Hunt for the Most Meticulous Serial Killer of the 21st Century** by Maureen Callahan (Penguin Random House - Viking)

**Norco '80: The True Story of the Most Spectacular Bank Robbery in American History** by Peter Houlahan (Counterpoint Press)

**Indecent Advances: A Hidden History of True Crime and Prejudice Before Stonewall** by James Polchin (Counterpoint Press)

## BEST CRITICAL/BIOGRAPHICAL

**Hitchcock and the Censors** by John Billheimer (University Press of Kentucky)

**Beyond the Thirty-Nine Steps: A Life of John Buchan** by Ursula Buchan (Bloomsbury Publishing)

**The Hooded Gunman: An Illustrated History of Collins Crime Club**

by John Curran (Collins Crime Club)

**Medieval Crime Fiction: A Critical Overview** by Anne McKendry (McFarland)

**The Mutual Admiration Society: How Dorothy L. Sayers and her Oxford Circle Remade the World for Women** by Mo Moulton (Hachette Book Group – Basic Books)

## BEST SHORT STORY

“Turistas,” from **Paque Tu Lo Sepas** by Hector Acosta (Down & Out Books)

“One of These Nights,” from **Cutting Edge: New Stories of Mystery and Crime by Women Writers** by Livia Llewellyn (Akashic Books)

“The Passenger,” from **Sydney Noir** by Kirsten Tranter (Akashic Books)

“Home at Last,” from **Die Behind the Wheel: Crime Fiction Inspired by the Music of Steely Dan** by Sam Wiebe (Down & Out Books)

“Brother’s Keeper,” from **Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine** by Dave Zeltserman (Dell Magazine)

## BEST JUVENILE

**The Collected Works of Gretchen Oyster** by Cary Fagan

(Penguin Random House Canada – Tundra Books)

**Eventown** by Corey Ann Haydu (HarperCollins Children’s Books – Katherine Tegen Books)

**The Whispers** by Greg Howard (Penguin Young Readers – G.P. Putnam’s Sons BFYR)

**All the Greys on Greene Street** by Laura Tucker (Penguin Young Readers – Viking BFYR)

**Me and Sam-Sam Handle the Apocalypse** by Susan Vaught (Simon & Schuster Children’s Books – Paula Wiseman Books)

## BEST YOUNG ADULT

**Catfishing on CatNet** by Naomi Kritzer (Tom Doherty Associates – Tor Teen)  
**Killing November** by Adriana Mather (Random House Children’s Books – Alfred A. Knopf BFYR)  
**Patron Saints of Nothing** by Randy Ribay (Penguin Young Readers - Kokila)  
**The Deceivers** by Kristen Simmons (Tom Doherty Associates – Tor Teen)  
**Wild and Crooked** by Leah Thomas (Bloomsbury Publishing)

## BEST TELEVISION EPISODE TELEPLAY

“**Season 5, Episode 3**” – **Line of Duty**, Teleplay by Jed Mercurio (Acorn TV)  
“**Season 5, Episode 4**” – **Line of Duty**, Teleplay by Jed Mercurio (Acorn TV)  
“**Episode 1**” – **Dublin Murders**, Teleplay by Sarah Phelps (STARZ)  
“**Episode 1**” – **Manhunt**, Teleplay by Ed Whitmore (Acorn TV)  
“**Episode 1**” – **Wisting**, Teleplay by Kathrine Valen Zeiner & Trygve Allister Diesen  
(Sundance Now)

## ROBERT L. FISH MEMORIAL AWARD

“**There’s a Riot Goin’ On,**” from **Milwaukee Noir** by Derrick Harriell (Akashic Books)

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## THE SIMON & SCHUSTER MARY HIGGINS CLARK AWARD

**The Night Visitors** by Carol Goodman (HarperCollins – William Morrow)  
**One Night Gone** by Tara Laskowski (Harlequin – Graydon House)  
**Strangers at the Gate** by Catriona McPherson (Minotaur Books)  
**Where the Missing Go** by Emma Rowley (Kensington Publishing)  
**The Murder List** by Hank Phillippi Ryan (Tom Doherty Associates – Forge Books)

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## THE G.P. PUTNAM’S SONS SUE GRAFTON MEMORIAL AWARD

**Shamed** by Linda Castillo (Minotaur Books)  
**Borrowed Time** by Tracy Clark (Kensington Publishing)  
**The Missing Ones** by Edwin Hill (Kensington Publishing)  
**The Satapur Moonstone** by Sujata Massey (Soho Crime)  
**The Alchemist’s Illusion** by Gigi Pandian (Midnight Ink)  
**Girl Gone Missing** by Marcie R. Rendon (Cincos Puntos Press)

The Edgar Awards, or “Edgars,” as they are commonly known, are named after MWA’s patron saint Edgar Allan Poe and are presented to authors of distinguished work in various categories. MWA is the premier organization for mystery writers, professionals allied to the crime-writing field, aspiring crime writers, and those who are devoted to the genre. The organization encompasses some 3,000 members including authors of fiction and non-fiction books, screen and television writers, as well as publishers, editors, and literary agents.

Mystery Writers of America would like to emphasize our commitment to diversity and fairness in the judging of the Edgar Awards. Judges are selected from every region of the country, from every sub-category of our genre, and from every demographic to ensure fairness and impartiality.

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