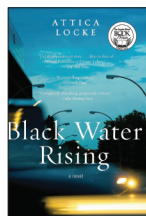


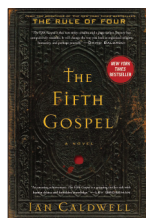
# MYSTERY and SCIENCE FICTION

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOOKSHOP SANTA CRUZ STAFF



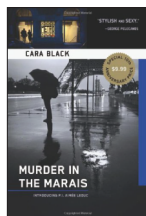
***Black Water Rising***  
by Attica Locke • HARPER PERENNIAL

The mix of political and historical details lends a depth to this vivid thriller. Locke plots a twisting path that has many subtle aspects as her main character, Jay Porter, tries to keep a murder from messing up his life. Set in the 1980s, the story also takes many trips back to Jay's more radical youth as he tries to reconcile his past, his present, and his sense of morality. It's part social commentary, part nail-biter, and altogether highly recommended. —Nici



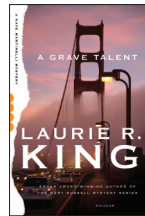
***The Fifth Gospel***  
by Ian Caldwell • SIMON & SCHUSTER

I loved this complex book! When the curator of a Vatican exhibit about the Shroud of Turin is murdered, the blame falls on Simon, a Roman Catholic priest. His brother Alex seeks an ancient gospel that contains the clues he needs to clear his brother's name. Drenched in history, this is the story of how far a quiet, heartbroken man will go to protect his beloveds...and how far others will go to conceal the truth. —Cat



***Murder in the Marais***  
by Cara Black  
SOHO CRIME

An unabashed thriller with a conscience, *Murder in the Marais* rushes you through the streets of Paris in the early 90s, as France stands on the brink of terribly repeating the past. Old secrets—both personal and national—vie with current conspiracy, and a trained detective long out of the game finds herself dodging hate groups and government goons through alleyways and old graves. An exciting, fun, and heart wrenching start to a wonderful series. —Jocelyn



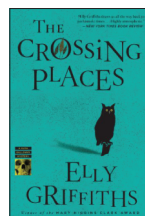
***A Grave Talent***  
by Laurie R. King • PICADOR

You know her name, and you've read her Mary Russell books, but have you read Laurie King's Kate Martinelli series? If not, you're in for such a treat! I adore Martinelli. Kate is a gay detective working in San Francisco, who is smart, dogged, and not afraid to dive into a case head on. *A Grave Talent* is exactly what you'd expect from King—a complex, thrilling mystery. —Flannery



***The Fatal Flame***  
by Lyndsay Faye • G.P. PUTNAM'S SONS

*The Gods of Gotham* introduced the world to Timothy Wilde: first detective of the nascent NYPD, gifted with unusual observation, deduction, and conscience. Here, Wilde faces down the political corruption of Tamany Hall as an arsonist threatens to burn the city to the ground—or at least, the defenseless parts. All mysteries will be revealed, all debts paid, and Wilde's fate will be sealed in this epic conclusion to Lyndsay Faye's wonderfully visceral mystery trilogy. —Jocelyn



***The Crossing Places***  
by Elly Griffiths • MARINER BOOKS

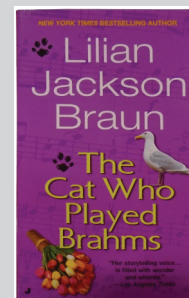
Ruth Galloway is comfortable in her life living on a remote salt marsh and working as an archeologist, but when a child's bones are found buried in the moor, she's pulled into the world of crime and murder. Ruth is a sharp-tongued, intelligent character, and I love her acerbic wit and wry observations, as well as her archeological point of view. I've read every book in this series and enjoyed them all. —Flannery

## NEW FEATURE IN OUR MYSTERY SECTION: COZY MYSTERIES

The genre of cozy mysteries—mysteries that aren't super violent, and feature knitting, cooking, cats, etc.—is a growing one, so much so that we now have several shelves devoted to them in the mystery section!

***The Cat Who Played Brahms***  
by Lillian Jackson Braun • JOVE BOOKS

Lillian Jackson Braun's *Cat Who* books are the original cozies. Following the adventures of the inquisitive newspaperman Qwilleran, who solves crimes in small town Michigan with hints from his two Siamese cats, these books are the definition of a fun mystery: Funny, clever, and well written. I read the whole series and enjoyed them all thoroughly. If that sounds like your cup of tea, come on in and check out our new cozy section! —Flannery



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