Joanne’s Favorite Mysteries

www.mysterytomebooks.com

**Woman in White** by Wilkie Collins
Gothic, Classic… an exploration of identity and whether "Laura" is still alive… one of the earliest examples of a mystery novel – and one of my favorites.

**A Haunting in Venice** by Agatha Christie (that's the movie title -- the book was originally published as *Hallowe'en Party*) -- a Poirot investigation of a surly 13 year old at a Halloween Party who boasts that she witnessed a murder... The very first Poirot mystery is titled "A Mysterious Affair at Styles"

Stephen Spotswood has a that begins with **Fortune Favors the Dead** A female detective duo… circus runaway Willowjean Parker, and Pentecost who might remind mystery readers of Agatha Christie’s Miss Marple!

Dublin Murder series by Tana French **In the Woods**

**And There He Kept Her** by Joshua Moehling (was just at the Wisconsin Book Festival) -- and the newest in the series **When the Dead Sleep** Focuses on a small-town gay Wisconsin detective Ben Packard. Good page-turning mystery with excellent character development and lots of twists to keep the reader guessing.

One of my favorite series is by Elly Griffiths – the Ruth Galloway Mysteries -- main character is a forensic archaeologist.  First in the series is **Crossing Places**

Richard Osman’s **The Thursday Murder Club** focuses on four senior citizen amateur detectives who get together in the Jigsaw Room of their retirement village to discuss unsolved crimes.

Anthony Horowitz writes **The Word is Murder** in which he writes himself in as a character in the entire series.

**When I'm Dead** by Hannah Morrissey. She's also written the "Widowmaker," and "Hello, Transcriber" -- many have called her the queen of Midwestern Noir.

Mick Herron's series about Slough House -- where washed up MI5 spies to while away what's left of their failed careers -- first in that series is **Slow Horses**

**Who is Vera Kelly?** by Rosalie Knecht -- a female spy for the CIA in New York City, 1962 -- she finds herself in Argentina wiretapping a congressman and infiltrating a group of student activists in Buenos Aires. It's clever and twisty.
Not a series…. But, one of my favorite reads of the past few months is titled *Kala* by Colin Walsh. Kala Lanann’s disappearance and then the discovery of her bones is the backstory – all told through Kala’s childhood friends one at a time as they come home to small-town Ireland for a wedding. A thriller, for sure!

Also not a series… *The Death of Us* by Lori Rader-Day, a Chicago author, writes about Liss Callan who opens her door one night to find her lifelong rival there who hands over her infant son and then is never heard from again. Liss raises the baby as her own until Ashley’s car is found in a quarry pond… Lots of page-turning tension!