

# Fireside Book Chats: Winter 2019

## Jackie's Top Thriller, Suspense or Mystery



Horowitz, Anthony. *The Word is Murder*, (2018). First in a new series. A playful and clever commentary on the mystery genre. Part classic whodunit, part amusing metafiction. Horowitz inserts himself into the story as the narrator of this murder investigation in which he pairs up with out-of-work detective Daniel Hawthorne whose character is a mystery unto itself.

Walsh, Rosie. *Ghosted*, (2018). For fans of Jojo Moyes, this British author makes her American debut with a suspenseful story of relationships, loss and hope. Sarah thinks she has met the love her life in Eddie-- until he disappears after leaving for a long-booked vacation. Sure to appeal to anyone who has dated in the digital era.

Turton, Stuart. *The 7 ½ Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle*, (2018) DEBUT. Turton's complex debut blends mystery with *Groundhog Day* and *Quantum Leap*. In this dizzying literary puzzle, the hapless protagonist is doomed to relive the same day over and over unless he can solve a murder at a masquerade ball. For fans of Kate Atkinson's *Life After Life*.

Cleeves, Ann. *Wild Fire*, (2018). The final book in the Inspector Jimmy Perez series looks inside a troubled family who left London in hopes of finding a quieter life in Shetland. Instead, murder arrived at their door. Meanwhile, Perez's relationship to fellow detective Willow Reeves becomes more complicated than ever. Readers will be disappointed to see the series end but satisfied with the finale.

Galbraith, Robert. *Lethal White*, (2018). You may know Galbraith by his other name, J.K. Rowling. In this fourth novel in the Cormoran Strike series, Strike and his partner Robin delve into a twisty mystery that takes them to the backstreets of London, the English countryside and the inner sanctum of Parliament. Fans of these characters will enjoy watching these two continue to grow and their relationships to develop.

French, Tana. *The Witch Elm*, (2018). This standalone novel has all the things readers love about the Dublin Murder Squad books--well developed characters, exquisite plotting, and deep explorations of human nature. Toby leads a charmed life with an idyllic childhood, a good family, a loving girlfriend, and promising prospects. But a vicious attack changes everything. Atmospheric and twisty.

Penny, Louise. *Kingdom of the Blind*, (2018). This 14<sup>th</sup> book in the Inspector Gamache series offers Penny's signature combination of strong characters and place plus lots of intrigue. Multiple plotlines keep the story moving while fans of the series will enjoy catching up with the residents of Three Pines.



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*Matthews, Jason. The Kremlin's Candidate, (2018). The third and final installment in Matthews' Red Sparrow trilogy delivers a shot of adrenaline. Double agents, plenty of political intrigue and often steamy relationship only add to the appeal of this action-packed finale.*

*Griffiths, Elly. The Dark Angel, (2018). Forensic archaeologist Ruth Galloway is back. This installment has her on the case in sunny Italy where she finds Roman age bones, World War II-era family feuds and a far more recent murder. DI Harry Nelson makes an appearance, of course, so expect the usual amount of sexual tension. A dramatic finish rounds out a typically solid outing for Ruth and friends.*

