

A. Resources for Obtaining a Mystery Novel

1. **CCC Library Catalog** – we have a reasonable, though not exhaustive collection in this genre.

Try a **keyword** search on *mystery fiction* for a long list of items – which will include e-books, audio books, & films as well as print books.

If you know the author you'd like to read, switch to author, and give the **last name** first.

Or just search the full name by **keyword** – this will retrieve any books in our collection **about** your author, along with the items **by** your author.

Keyword	christie, agatha	Search
Author		More search options
Title		
Subject		

Keyword	agatha christie	Search
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NOTE: beware of abridged books! Items with a PE call number are abridgments for English Language Learners; many of our audiobooks are also abridged editions.

2. **Public Libraries** – will all have a great selection of mystery novels!

3. **Online Editions** of older, “classic” mystery novels.

For those who don't mind reading a whole book online, any books that are now out of copyright are likely to be available in free full text at either of these sites:

- **Google Book Search** (books.google.com)
Choose “mystery” from the menu on the left; ask for “full view” items only.
Or search for a specific title.
- **Online Books** (onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu)

4. **“Library2Go” audio books** from your County Library system (library2go.lib.overdrive.com)

Do you prefer audio books? Most of our own are abridged editions, and not suitable for your coursework. However, if you have a card with any Oregon county library system, you can download audio books through this service – and they have plenty of mysteries.

Follow the directions on their website to download some obligatory software. You can check out up to 6 books at a time, for a 10-day loan period, and you may need to place a hold to get on a waiting list. The books can be played on some MP3 players – **but not**, sadly, on an iPod!

NEED SOME RECOMMENDATIONS? TRY THESE:

- Google Directory's "Mystery" category: www.google.com/Top/Arts/Literature/Genres/Mystery/
- Powell's Mystery page: www.powells.com/psection/Mystery.html
- Multnomah County Public Library's Booklists for Mystery Readers: www.multcolib.org/books/lists/adultlists.html#mysteries

B. Resources for Literary Criticism & Biographical Information

A few subject headings to be aware of as you search:

(Different search engines may use different terms; watch for them!)

Crime writing Criminal investigation - fiction Detective & mystery stories Detectives	Detectives in literature Investigation – fiction Murder investigation - fiction	Mystery fiction Noir fiction Private investigators
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1. Gale Literature Encyclopedias (in the Reference Collection):

These are vast compilations of biography, criticism & reviews. Gale provides a **combined index** (not the text) to all of their encyclopedias online:

Access:

search for *Gale Literary Index* in either the **CCC Library Catalog** or *Google*.

Search the Literary Index by **author**; this will give you a list of the Gale encyclopedias which discuss your author. This list will also show which volumes discuss each of the author's individual works.



We have many, though not all, of these sets; here are their locations on the Reference shelves: (these cannot be checked out; photocopy the articles you need)

<i>Contemporary Authors</i>	PN 771 .C6	<i>Literature Criticism from 1400-1800</i>	PN 86 .L53
<i>Contemporary Authors New Revision</i>	PN 771 .C670	<i>Nineteenth Century Literary Criticism</i>	PN 761 .N56
<i>Contemporary Literary Criticism</i>	PN 771 .C59	<i>Shakespearean Criticism</i>	PR 2965 .S43
<i>Dict. of Literary Biography</i>	PS 128 .D5	<i>Twentieth Century Literary Criticism</i>	PN 771. T94
<i>Literature and Its Times</i>	PN 50 .L574	<i>World Literature and Its Times</i>	PN 50 .N625 1999

2. Academic Search Premier (from EBSCO) – for academic journal and magazine articles.

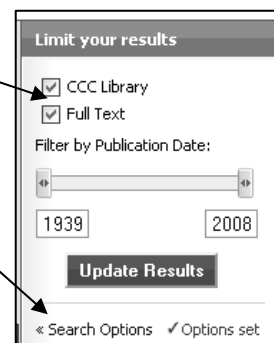
Unfamiliar with EBSCO? View the Research Tutorial (Research > More > Research Tutorials) titled “Academic Search Premier – the Basics.”



• Try entering an author's name both ways. EBSCO uses a **phrase search**; it will find “Raymond Chandler” in titles or abstracts, but “Chandler Raymond” in author or subject fields.

• Limit to **full-text** articles and/or those **held at CCC Library** if you wish; but remember that we can get other articles for you via Interlibrary Loan.

• In “Search Options” you can limit to articles of a particular length. You can limit to academic journals from here, or from the results list.



3. Additional Resources for Books about Literature:

- **Twayne's Authors** (American, English, World)
Entire books of criticism on individual authors, on CD-ROM. Ask at the Reference Desk.
- **Summit** or **WorldCat** (from FirstSearch): large combined library catalogs use these to identify items we do not have; request them through Interlibrary Loan.
- **Google Book Search**: if you get lucky, a book may be available in “full view,” or the chapter you need may be available in “limited preview.” Otherwise, request the item interlibrary loan.