

## Southern California mysteries

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*Mysteries set in Southern California*

### [A is for Alibi](#)

**Series Title:** [Kinsey Millhone Mysteries](#)

by Grafton, Sue

*The wife of a hated divorce lawyer becomes the main suspect in his murder and hires private detective Kinsey Millhone to find the real killer.*

### [Angel in Black](#)

by Collins, Max Allan

*In Los Angeles to help launch a West Coast branch of his detective agency, Chicago private detective Nathan Heller becomes caught up in the notorious Black Dahlia homicide when he discovers that the victim, Elizabeth Short, is a young woman whom he had known in Chicago and who had contacted him shortly before her death.*

### [Anonymous Rex](#)

by Garcia, Eric

*A down-on-his-luck L.A. private investigator--who also happens to be a dinosaur--explains how the dinosaurs faked their extinction millions of years ago and roam the earth in disguise, while he struggles to uncover the mystery of his partner's death and overcome his dangerous basil addiction.*

### [The Big Sleep](#)

by Chandler, Raymond

*Philip Marlowe, a private eye who operates in Los Angeles's seamy underside during the 1930s, takes on his first case, which involves a paralyzed California millionaire, two psychotic daughters, blackmail, and murder.*

### [Black Dahlia](#)

**Series Title:** [L. A. Quartet](#)

by Ellroy, James

*Bucky Bleichert, ex-prize fighter and policeman, investigates when a young woman's mutilated body appears in a vacant Los Angeles lot.*

[Blood Reins](#)

**Series Title:** [Sandra Cameron series](#)

by Joens, Michael

*Detective Thomas Rigby of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department investigates the murder of a prestigious horse trainer, a reputed lady's man who once taught Rigby's fellow detective and current girlfriend, the last person who saw the victim alive.*

[Blood Work](#)

by Connelly, Michael

*Eight weeks after a heart transplant saves his life, former FBI agent Terry McCaleb discovers that his new heart came from a murder victim, leading Terry to become involved in tracking down the killer.*

[Chalk Whispers](#)

by Bishop, Paul

*When the sister of an outspoken police commissioner is found murdered, Fey Croaker and the crew of the LAPD's elite Robbery-Homicide division turn up a list of high-profile suspects, an underground abused child protection ring, and links to an unsolved thirty-year-old killing implicating a powerful California Supreme Court nominee.*

[The Clark Gable and Carole Lombard Murder Case](#)

by Baxt, George

*While 1939 Atlanta is gearing up for the premiere of *Gone With the Wind*, Hollywood is experiencing a series of kidnappings targeted at star babies, with the dashing Clark Gable and his glamorous wife Carole Lombard on the case.*

[Death in Little Tokyo](#)

**Series Title:** [Ken Tanaka series](#)

by Furutani, Dale

*A femme fatale asks mystery buff and amateur sleuth Ken*

*Tanaka to take on a case for her--which he does on a lark--but he soon finds himself involved in a murder in Los Angeles's Little Tokyo.*

[Ghosts of Morning](#)

**Series Title:** [a Wil Hardesty mystery](#)

by Barre, Richard

*A mysterious and popular private eye with a deep, dark past, Wil Hardesty is the focus of a gritty novel in which the author plunges further into Wil's dark past to a distant place where murder and friendship collide.*

[Goodnight, Irene](#)

**Series Title:** [Irene Kelly series](#)

by Burke, Jan

*When her closest friend, O'Connor, is killed by a bomb shortly before he was to solve a 1955 murder, Irene Kelly takes it upon herself to figure out who silenced her friend and why.*

[A Hard Light](#)

**Series Title:** [Maggie MacGowen mystery](#)

by Hornsby, Wendy

*A beautiful Vietnamese immigrant petitions filmmaker and sleuth Maggie MacGowen to find a scholar who escaped from Vietnam with a fortune in art after the war, leading her straight into a web of lies and betrayals.*

[The Jasmine Trade](#)

**Series Title:** [Eve Diamond series](#)

by Hamilton, Denise

*The death of bride-to-be Marina Chang in a supposed carjacking sends Los Angeles Times reporter Eve Diamond on the trail of California's "parachute kids," wealthy Asian teens living alone while their parents run Hong Kong businesses, putting her own life in danger as she unravels the mysteries of Marina's life and death.*

[Jinxed](#)

**Series Title:** [Regan Reilly series](#)

by Clark, Carol Higgins

*Hired to find a missing movie starlet, private investigator Regan Reilly finds her search taking her to such sites as a movie set, boutique wineries, and new-age cults, where she meets a host of colorful characters and experiences a range of misadventures.*

[Killer Commute](#)

**Series Title:** [Charlie Greene series](#)

by Millhiser, Marlys

*When one of her neighbors is murdered Long Beach literary agent Charlie Green must forego her holiday and cope with decidedly strange neighbors, intrusive police, and an unknown killer.*

[L. A. Requiem](#)

**Series Title:** [Elvis Cole series](#)

by Crais, Robert

*When P.I. Elvis Cole discovers that his partner, Joe Pike, was once the lover of a murdered woman, he finds himself going beyond normal investigative procedures and starts to pry into the very private realm of the LAPD's elite Robbery-Homicide Division.*

[Mumbo Gumbo](#)

**Series Title:** [Madeline Bean culinary mystery series](#)

by Farmer, Jerrilyn

*Hired to replace a missing L.A. TV show writer, Madeline Bean takes on a quirky staff and every one of its humourous responsibilities while concentrating her efforts on finding the missing writer and uncovering the mystery behind his absence.*

[Sleeping Bones](#)

**Series Title:** [Kate Delafield series](#)

by Forrest, Katherine V.

*Los Angeles's Kate Delafield, a lesbian homicide detective, returns to investigate a murder at the La Brea Tar Pits that spirals into a dangerous case involving scientific revelations, political corruption, and the CIA.*

[The Viking Funeral](#)

**Series Title:** [Shane Scully series](#)

by Cannell, Stephen J.

*LAPD Sergeant Shane Scully discovers that his friend and colleague Jody Dean--who supposedly committed suicide two years previously--has joined a destructive group of rogue cops called the Vikings, who are determined to wreak havoc on the LAPD.*

[Zen and the Art of Murder](#)

**Series Title:** [Zen Moses series](#)

by Cosin, Elizabeth

*Tough Los Angeles private detective Zen Moses finds an unwelcome surprise over a glass of beer in her favorite bar, Father's Office, when she stumbles over the body of her murdered long-lost cousin.*