



# The Weekend Novelist Writes a Mystery

*Robert J. Ray*

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## **The Weekend Novelist Writes a Mystery** Robert J. Ray

Like Agatha Christie and Raymond Chandler, Sara Paretsky and Thomas Harris, you, too, can learn the trade secrets of quality detective fiction.

It's true. Just one year from now, you can deliver a completed mystery novel to a publisher--by writing only on weekends. Authors Robert J. Ray and Jack Remick guide you through the entire mystery-writing process, from creating a killer to polishing off the final draft. Each weekend you'll focus on a specific task--learning the basics of novel-writing, the special demands of mystery-writing, and the secrets professionals use to create stories one scene at a time, building to a shivery, satisfying climax. Using Agatha Christie's *The Body in the Library* as a model for the classical mystery tale and Martin Cruz Smith's *Gorky Park* for the hard-boiled mystery, this unique step-by-step program gives you all the information you need to reach your ultimate goal: a finished book in just 52 weeks!

Let two successful masters of the genre show you how...

Discover:

Why you must create your killer first

The tricks to writing dialogue that does it all--moves your plot, involves your reader, and makes your style sizzle

How to "bury" information (and corpses) for your reader to find

Why you should NOT build your book around chapters

Special techniques for clearing writer's block

Plus: examples from Sue Grafton, Dashiell Hammett, Patricia Cornwell, Thomas Harris, Raymond Chandler, and more.

*From the Trade Paperback edition.*

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