

WHERE THE PEN IS BLOODIER THAN THE SWORD

SIMON MASON BEATS JOHN GRISHAM FOR NEW YA GONG AT THE ANNUAL CRIMEFEST AWARDS

2017 WINNERS ANNOUNCED

STRICTLY UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL 21st MAY 00.01:

CrimeFest 2017 is thrilled to announce the winners of its six award categories at the convention's annual gala dinner this evening. The awards gala is the highlight of the UK's biggest international crime fiction festival, with previous winners including Ian Rankin, Kate Atkinson, Stieg Larsson and Philip Kerr. The event is a celebration of a fantastic year in crime fiction, with Robin Stevens snapping up the first ever CrimeFest Award for Children's Crime Fiction as one of the UK's most popular children's book authors for her *Murder Most Unladylike* series. Simon Mason won the first ever award for Young Adult Crime Fiction for his teenage murder mystery *Kid Got Shot*, beating American bestseller John Grisham's lucrative YA *Theodore Boone* series.

The winners are:

Audible Sounds of Crime Award

WINNER: **Clare Mackintosh** for *I See You*, read by Rachel Atkins (Hachette Audio / Isis)

eDunnit Award

WINNER: **Laura Lippman** for *Wilde Lake* (Faber & Faber)

H.R.F. Keating Award

WINNER: **Barry Forshaw** for *Brit Noir* (Pocket Essentials)

Last Laugh Award

WINNER: **Mick Herron** for *Real Tigers* (John Murray)

Best Crime Novel for Children (8 – 12)

WINNER: **Robin Stevens** for *Murder Most Unladylike: Mistletoe and Murder* (Puffin)

Best Crime Novel for Young Adults (12 – 16)

WINNER: **Simon Mason** for *Kid Got Shot* (David Fickling Books)

The ceremony took place at the Bristol Royal Marriott Hotel to mark the climax of a convention that saw hundreds of authors, publishers, agents and lovers of crime fiction descend on the city for four days of exciting panel discussions, author talks and interviews with award-winning, bestselling crime fiction authors. Highlights of this year's convention included guest author appearances from **Anthony Horowitz, Ann Cleeves, Peter Lovesey** and **Martin Edwards**.

Representing her fellow organisers, CrimeFest co-director Donna Moore said: "We're delighted this year to introduce two new awards that recognise the contribution of children's and YA fiction to the crime genre, as well as celebrating the breadth and depth of quality in crime fiction and non-fiction. We are thrilled to have such an eclectic mixture of winners that will delight both fans and newcomers to the genre."

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SHORTLIST DETAILS:**AUDIBLE SOUNDS OF CRIME AWARD**

The Audible Sounds of Crime Award is for the best unabridged crime audiobook first published in the UK in 2016 in both printed and audio formats, and available for download from audible.co.uk, Britain's largest provider of downloadable audiobooks. Courtesy of sponsor Audible UK, the winning author and audiobook reader(s) share the £1,000 prize equally and each receives a Bristol Blue Glass commemorative award.

Other Nominees for Best Unabridged Crime Audiobook:

- Ben Aaronovitch for *The Hanging Tree*, read by Kobna Holdbrook-Smith (Orion Publishing Group)
- Rachel Abbott for *Kill Me Again*, read by Lisa Coleman (Bolinda / Audible)
- Fiona Barton for *The Widow*, read by Clare Corbett (Bolinda / Audible)
- Lee Child for *Night School*, read by Jeff Harding (Transworld Digital)
- Anthony Horowitz for *Maggie Murders*, read by Allan Corduner & Samantha Bond (Orion Publishing Group)
- Peter May for *Coffin Road*, read by Peter Forbes (Riverrun)
- Holly Seddon for *Try Not to Breathe*, read by Jot Davies, Lucy Middleweek & Katy Sobey (Bolinda)

Eligible titles were submitted by publishers, and Audible UK listeners established the shortlist and the winning title.

eDUNNIT AWARD

The eDunnit Award is for the best crime fiction ebook first published in both hardcopy and in electronic format in the British Isles in 2016.

Other Nominees for the eDunnit Award:

- Linwood Barclay for *The Twenty-Three* (Orion Publishing Group)
- Steph Broadribb for *Deep Down Dead* (Orenda Books)
- Michael Connelly for *The Wrong Side of Goodbye* (Orion Publishing Group)
- Ragnar Jonasson for *Blackout* (Orenda Books)
- Ian Rankin for *Rather Be the Devil* (Orion Publishing Group)
- Andrew Taylor for *The Ashes of London* (HarperFiction)
- L.C. Tyler for *Cat Among the Herrings* (Allison & Busby)

Eligible titles were submitted by publishers, and a team of British crime fiction reviewers voted to establish the shortlist and the winning title.

H.R.F. KEATING AWARD

The H.R.F. Keating Award is for the best biographical or critical book related to crime fiction first published in the British Isles in 2016. The award is named after H.R.F. 'Harry' Keating, one of Britain's most esteemed crime novelists, crime reviewers and writer of books about crime fiction. The winning author receives a commemorative Bristol Blue Glass award.

Other Nominees for the H.R.F. Keating Award:

- Mark Aldridge for *Agatha Christie on Screen* (Palgrave Macmillan)
- J.C. Berthnal for *Queering Agatha Christie* (Palgrave Macmillan)
- Rachel Franks & Alistair Rolls for *Crime Uncovered: Private investigator* (Intellect)

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- Katharina Hall for *Crime Fiction in German: Der Krimi* (University of Wales Press)
- Megan Hoffman for *Gender and Representation in British 'Golden Age' Crime Fiction* (Palgrave Macmillan)
- Elizabeth Mannion for *The Contemporary Irish Detective Novel* (Palgrave Macmillan)

Eligible titles were submitted by publishers, and a team of British crime fiction reviewers voted to establish the shortlist and the winning title.

LAST LAUGH AWARD

The Last Laugh Award is for the best humorous crime novel first published in the British Isles in 2016. The winner receives a Bristol Blue Glass commemorative award.

Other Nominees for the Last Laugh Award:

- Ken Bruen & Jason Starr for *PIMP* (Hardcase Crime)
- John Dufresne for *I Don't Like Where This Is Going* (Serpent's Tail)
- Judith Flanders for *A Cast of Vultures* (Allison & Busby)
- Carl Hiaasen for *Razor Girl* (Little, Brown Book Group)
- Vaseem Khan for *The Perplexing Theft of the Jewel in the Crown* (Hodder & Stoughton)
- L.C. Tyler for *Cat Among the Herrings* (Allison & Busby)
- Chris Whitaker for *Tall Oaks* (Twenty7)

Eligible titles were submitted by publishers, and a team of British crime fiction reviewers voted to establish the shortlist and the winning title.

BEST CRIME NOVEL FOR CHILDREN (8 – 12)

The Best Crime Novel for Children is for the best crime fiction novel for children aged 8 – 12 years old first published in the British Isles in 2016.

Other Nominees for the Best Crime Novel for Children (08 – 12):

- Lyn Gardner for *Rose Campion and The Stolen Secret* (Nosy Crow)
- Fleur Hitchcock for *Murder In Midwinter* (Nosy Crow)
- Gareth P. Jones for *The Thornthwaite Betrayal* (Piccadilly Press)
- Tom McLaughlin for *The Accidental Secret Agent* (Oxford University Press)
- Robin Stevens for *Murder Most Unladylike: Jolly Foul Play* (Puffin)
- Harriet Whitehorn for *Violet and the Smugglers* (Simon & Schuster)
- Katherine Woodfine for *The Mystery of the Jewelled Moth* (Egmont)

Eligible titles were submitted by publishers, and reviewers of fiction for children and young adults voted to establish the shortlist and the winning title.

BEST CRIME NOVEL FOR YOUNG ADULTS (12 – 16)

The Best Crime Novel for Young Adults is for the best crime fiction novel for young adults aged 12 – 16 years old first published in the British Isles in 2016.

Other Nominees for Best Crime Novel for Young Adults (12 – 16)

- Leigh Bardugo for *Crooked Kingdom* (Hachette Children's Group)
- Kerry Drewery for *Cell 7* (Hot Key Books)



CRIMEFEST – 18th – 21st May 2017



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- John Grisham for *Theodore Boone: The Scandal* (Hodder & Stoughton)
- Erin Lange for *Rebel, Bully, Geek, Pariah* (Faber & Faber)
- Patrice Lawrence for *Orangeboy* (Hachette Children's Group)
- Simon Mayo for *Blame* (Penguin)
- Eliza Wass for *In The Dark, In The Woods* (Hachette Children's Group)

Eligible titles were submitted by publishers, and reviewers of fiction for children and young adults voted to establish the shortlist and the winning title.

www.crimefest.com

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