

Macavity Awards

The Macavity Award is named for the "mystery cat" of T.S. Eliot (Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats).

Each year the members of Mystery Readers International nominate and vote for their favorite mysteries in four categories. The year listed is the year of the award, for books published in the previous year.

Macavity Awards Nominees – 2015

Best Novel:

DB 80189 The Missing Place by Sophie Littlefield

DB 80366 The Killer Next Door by Alex Marwood

DB 80036 The Lewis Man: The Lewis Trilogy, Book 2 by Peter May

DB 80767 The Day She Died by Catriona McPherson

DB 79627 The Long Way Home: A Three Pines Mystery, Book 10 by Louise Penny

Best First Novel:

DB 80818 Invisible City: A Rebekah Roberts Novel, Book 1 by Julia Dahl

DB 79624 Dear Daughter by Elizabeth Little

Sue Feder Historical Mystery Award:

DB 79668 Queen of Hearts: A Royal Spyness Mystery, Book 8 by Rhys Bowen

DB 78375 An Officer and a Spy by Robert Harris

DB 78155 Hunting Shadows: An Ian Rutledge Mystery, Book 16 by Charles Todd

Macavity Awards Winners – 2014

Best Novel:

DB 78187 Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger

Best Nonfiction:

DB 78103 The Hour of Peril: The Secret Plot to Murder Lincoln Before the Civil War by Daniel Stashower

Macavity Awards Nominees – 2014

Best Novel:

DB 78296 Sandrine's Case by Thomas H. Cook

DB 77349 The Wicked Girls by Alex Marwood

DB 77320 How the Light Gets In: A Three Pines Mystery, Book 9 by Louise Penny

DB 76142 Standing in Another Man's Grave: A John Rebus Mystery, Book 18 by Ian Rankin

Best First Novel:

DB 79459 Yesterday's Echo by Matt Coyle

DB 76296 Rage Against the Dying by Becky Masterman

DB 76063 Cover of Snow by Jenny Milchman

DB 79894 Norwegian by Night by Derek B. Miller

Best Nonfiction:

DB 76463 The Lady and Her Monsters: A Tale of Dissections, Real-Life Dr. Frankensteins, and the Creation of Mary Shelley's Masterpiece by Roseanne Montillo

Macavity Awards Winners – 2013

Best Novel:

DB 75464 The Beautiful Mystery: A Three Pines Mystery, Book 8 by Louise Penny

Best First Novel:

DB 76156 Don't Ever Get Old by Daniel Friedman

Best Nonfiction:

DB 76688 Books to Die For: The World's Greatest Mystery Writers on the World's Greatest Mystery Novels edited by John Connolly and Declan Burke

Sue Feder Historical Mystery Award:

DB 76195 An Unmarked Grave: A Bess Crawford Mystery, Book 4 by Charles Todd

Macavity Awards Nominees – 2013

Best Novel:

DB 74888 Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn

DB 76770 The Other Woman: A Jane Ryland Novel, Book 1 by Hank Phillippi Ryan

DB 76184 The Last Policeman: The Last Policeman Trilogy, Book 1 by Ben H. Winters

Best First Novel:

DB 79346 Mr. Churchill's Secretary: A Maggie Hope Mystery, Book 1 by Susan Elia MacNeal

DB 74483 The Expats by Chris Pavone

Best Nonfiction:

DB 75956 Midnight in Peking: How the Murder of a Young Englishwoman Haunted the Last Days of Old China by Paul French

Sue Feder Historical Mystery Award:

DB 79347 Princess Elizabeth's Spy: A Maggie Hope Mystery, Book 2 by Susan Elia MacNeal

DB 76543 The Confession: A John Rebus Mystery, Book 14 by Charles Todd

DB 74597 Elegy for Eddie: A Maisie Dobbs Mystery, Book 9 by Jacqueline Winspear

Macavity Awards Winners – 2012

Best Nonfiction:

DB 74135 The Sookie Stackhouse Companion by Charlaine Harris

Macavity Awards Nominees – 2012

Best Novel:

DB 74155 A Trick of the Light: A Three Pines Mystery, Book 7 by Louise Penny

DB 74119 The Two Deaths of Daniel Hayes by Marcus Sakey

Best First Novel:

DB 76342 Learning to Swim: A Troy Chance Mystery, Book 1 by Sara J. Henry

DB 74120 Turn of Mind by Alice LaPlante

DB 74940 The Informationist: A Vanessa Michael Munroe Novel, Book 1 by Taylor Stevens

DB 73374 Before I Go to Sleep by S.J. Watson

Best Nonfiction:

DB 75858 The Savage City: Race, Murder, and a Generation on the Edge by T.J. English

Sue Feder Historical Mystery Award:

DB 77092 Naughty in Nice: A Royal Spyness Mystery, Book 5 by Rhys Bowen

DB 73221 A Lesson in Secrets: A Maisie Dobbs Mystery, Book 8 by Jacqueline Winspear

Macavity Awards Winners – 2011

Best Novel:

DB 72936 Bury Your Dead: A Three Pines Mystery, Book 6 by Louise Penny

Best First Novel:

DB 74550 Rogue Island: A Liam Mulligan Mystery, Book 1 by Bruce DeSilva

Best Nonfiction:

DB 72106 Agatha Christie's Secret Notebooks: Fifty Years of Mysteries in the Making by John Curran

Macavity Awards Nominees – 2011

Best Novel:

DB 71706 The Glass Rainbow: A Dave Robicheaux Novel, Book 18 by James Lee Burke

DB 72193 Faithful Place: Dublin Murder Squad, Book 3 by Tana French
DB 75366 The Queen of Patpong: A Poke Rafferty Thriller, Book 4 by Timothy Hallinan
DB 75828 Thirteen Hours: A Benny Griessel Mystery, Book 2 by Deon Meyer

Best First Novel:

DB 72532 The Poacher's Son: A Mike Bowditch Novel, Book 1 by Paul Doiron
DB 72870 A Thousand Cuts by Simon Lelic

Best Nonfiction:

DB 72307 The Poisoner's Handbook: Murder and the Birth of Forensic Medicine in Jazz Age New York by Deborah Blum
DB 72582 Charlie Chan: The Untold Story of the Honorable Detective and His Rendezvous with American History by Yunte Huang

Sue Feder Historical Mystery Award:

DB 71475 The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet by David Mitchell
DB 76529 The Red Dorr: An Ian Rutledge Mystery, Book 12 by Charles Todd

Macavity Awards Winners – 2010

Best First Novel:

DB 70410 The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie: A Flavia de Luce Mystery, Book 1 by Alan Bradley

Best Nonfiction:

DB 72698 Talking About Detective Fiction by P.D. James

Macavity Awards Nominees – 2010

Best Novel:

DB 73868 Nemesis: A Harry Hole Novel, Book 4 by Jo Nesbo
DB 70226 The Brutal Telling: A Three Pines Mystery, Book 5 by Louise Penny
DB 72197 The Shanghai Moon: A Lydia Chinn and Bill Smith Mystery, Book 9 by S.J. Rozan

Best First Novel:

DB 72646 A Bad Day for Sorry: A Stella Hardesty Crime Novel, Book 1 by Sophie Littlefield
DB 72867 A Beautiful Place to Die: An Emmanuel Cooper Mystery, Book 1 by Malla Nunn

Best Nonfiction:

DB 69647 L.A. Noir: The Struggle for the Soul of America's Most Seductive City by John Buntin
DB 72577 Provenance: How a Con Man and a Forger Rewrote the History of Modern Art by Laney Salisbury and Aly Sujo

Best Mystery Short Story:

DB 72745 The Desert Here and the Desert Far Away by Marcus Sakey (Thriller, Volume 2: Stories You Can't Put Down Anthology edited by Clive Cussler)

DB 71050 Amapola by Luis Alberto Urrea (Phoenix Noir Anthology edited by Patrick Millikin)

Sue Feder Historical Mystery Award:

DB 72917 In the Shadow of Gotham: A Simon Ziele Mystery, Book 1 by Stefanie Pintoff
DB 72025 A Duty to the Dead: A Bess Crawford Mystery, Book 1 by Charles Todd
DB 68519 Among the Mad: A Maisie Dobbs Mystery, Book 6 by Jacqueline Winspear

Macavity Awards Winners – 2009

Best Novel:

DB 68826 Where Memories Lie: A Duncan Kincaid and Gemma James Mystery, Book 12 by Deborah Crombie

Best First Novel:

DB 67759 The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo: The Millennium Trilogy, Book 1 by Stieg Larsson

Sue Feder Historical Mystery Award:

DB 69943 A Royal Pain: A Royal Spyness Mystery, Book 2 by Rhys Bowen
Macavity Awards Nominees – 2009

Best Novel:

DB 78404 Curse of the Spellmans: The Spellmans, Book 2 by Lisa Lutz

DB 67419 The Cruellest Month: A Three Pines Mystery, Book 3 by Louise Penny

DB 66478 The Fault Tree by Louise Ure

Best First Novel:

DB 69655 Death of a Cozy Writer: A St. Just Mystery, Book 1 by G.M. Malliet

DB 68934 Calumet City by Charlie Newton

Best Nonfiction:

DB 67266 The Suspicions of Mr. Whicher: A Shocking Murder and the Undoing of a Great Victorian
Detective by Kate Summerscale

Sue Feder Historical Mystery Award:

DB 67427 The Whiskey Rebels by David Liss