The Armchair Detectives

Meeting the first Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm

March 6: “Still Life” by Louise Penny. Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Surêté du Québec and his team of investigators are called in to the scene of a suspicious death in a rural village south of Montreal. Jane Neal, a local fixture in the tiny hamlet of Three Pines, just north of the U.S. border, has been found dead in the woods.

April 3: “Scot Free” by Catriona McPherson. After ending her ill-conceived marriage to a philandering doctor, Lexy Campbell is all set to leave Cuento, California, for her native Scotland. She’s just waiting for her marriage-counseling clients, Mr. and Mrs. Bombarro, to pop in for their last session when the police come knocking and announce that Mrs. Bombarro has been arrested for murdering Mr. Bombarro.

May 1: “The Cuckoo’s Calling” by Robert Galbraith. Working as a private investigator after losing his leg in Afghanistan, Cormoran Strike takes the case of a legendary supermodel's suspicious suicide and finds himself in a world of multi-millionaire beauties, rock-star boyfriends, desperate designers and hedonist pursuits.

June 5: “Crocodile on the Sandbank” by Elizabeth Peters. Amelia Peabody, that indomitable product of the Victorian age, embarks on her debut Egyptian adventure armed with unshakable self-confidence, a journal to record her thoughts, and, of course, a sturdy umbrella.
July 3: “The Secret Place” by Tana French. Investigating a photograph of a boy whose murder was never solved, aspiring Murder Squad member Stephen Moran partners with detective Antoinette Conway to search for answers in the cliques and rivalries at a Dublin boarding school.

August 7: “Maisie Dobbs” by Jacqueline Winspear. After the Armistice in the spring of 1929, Maisie hangs out her shingle: M. Dobbs, Trade and Personal Investigations. Her very first case involves suspected infidelity but turns up something else, a tombstone with only a first name.

September 4: “The Fifth Gospel” by Ian Caldwell. A lost gospel, a contentious relic, and a dying pope's final wish converge to send two brothers--both Vatican priests--on an intellectual quest to untangle Christianity's greatest historical mystery.

October 2: “The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie” by C. Alan Bradley. Eleven-year-old Flavia de Luce, an aspiring chemist with a passion for poison, must exonerate her father of murder. Armed with more than enough knowledge to tie two distant deaths together and examine new suspects, she begins a search that will lead her all the way to the King of England himself.

November 6: “Dog On It” by Spencer Quinn. Introducing two-legged Bernie and his four-legged pal Chet--a canine with a penchant for solving mysteries--their first case is to track down a teenager who's out way past curfew.

December 4: “Christmas Carol Murder” by Lelsie Meier. When Jake Marlowe, a co-owner of Downeast Mortgage in Tinker's Cove, Maine, is murdered, and his partner, Ben Scriber, begins receiving death threats after claiming to be visited by Marlowe's ghost, Lucy Stone is on the case.