

## What a Year for This Reader Kris Wiley for The News-Review

I am in the final push to reach my reading goal of 200 books this year, and with a couple of well-timed days off from work, I think I'll make it.

Not only have I read a lot of books, I have read a lot of wonderful books that I can't wait to share with you over the next few weeks. The library has all of these books in print or online for you to enjoy, or consider gifting them during the holiday season to the readers in your life.

First up are mysteries, my favorite genre. Whether it's a fast-paced thriller, a character study or a cozy, I always have at least one whodunit in my pile of currently reading titles. The following are a few of my favorites of the year.

Pick up "Listen for the Lie" by Amy Tintera for the fast-paced plot featuring Lucy, who was not charged but always suspected of killing her best friend, Savvy.

Stick with the book for Lucy's homicidal inner voice, which is bonkers and hilarious.

Savvy's death is re-examined by a true crime podcaster who arrives in the Texas town where she died, interviews neighbors and family, and compels Lucy to return from her refuge in Los Angeles. Lucy is forced to relive traumatic events to uncover the real murderer.

"The Kill List" is the third book in Nadine Matheson's Inspector Anjelica Henley series set in London. You don't have to read the books in order, but for series purists, start with "The Jigsaw Man" then "The Binding Room."

"The Kill List" resurrects a case that was deeply personal to Henley when she was 15. It seems the convicted killer may not have been the perpetrator after all. Not only that, Henley's mentor, whose suicide left the serial crimes team reeling, has been accused of mishandling the original investigation.

It is up to Henley and her team to track down the real killer – a truly gruesome business that unfolds in graphic detail - and clear the name of their former colleague.

Between the crime solving and Henley's messy personal life, which becomes increasingly complicated over the course of the series, I was riveted. Matheson has created a fantastic detective, and I can't wait to see what they both do next.

"Guide Me Home" is the third and final book of the Highway 59 series by Attica Locke. I recommend binging "Bluebird Bluebird," "Heaven, My Home" then "Guide Me Home" to get the full experience of a Black Texas Ranger dealing with murder, race and family in eastern Texas.

I loved the entire series because of the amazing character development of Darren Matthews, whose backstory unravels slowly. He was raised by his uncles, one a Texas Ranger and one an attorney, after his father's death.

But it's the mostly dysfunctional relationship between Matthews and his mother that makes this series shine. The twists (the ending of the first book!) and turns (is that sympathy I feel for Matthews' mother?) lead to a satisfying conclusion.

Stop by the library and share your favorite reads of the year with me. I'm always looking for more books to add to my list.

#### Next week's library events

Tuesday, October 15, 10 a.m. – Grab-and-go craft kits while supplies last

Tuesday, October 15, 10:15 a.m. – Lap-Sit Storytime with Aurora

Wednesday, October 16, 10:15 a.m. – Storytime with Aurora

Wednesday, October 16, 3-5 p.m. – Teen Volunteer Hours

Thursday, October 17, 10:15 a.m. – Storytime with Aurora

Thursday, October 17, 4-5 p.m. – Building & Legos for all ages