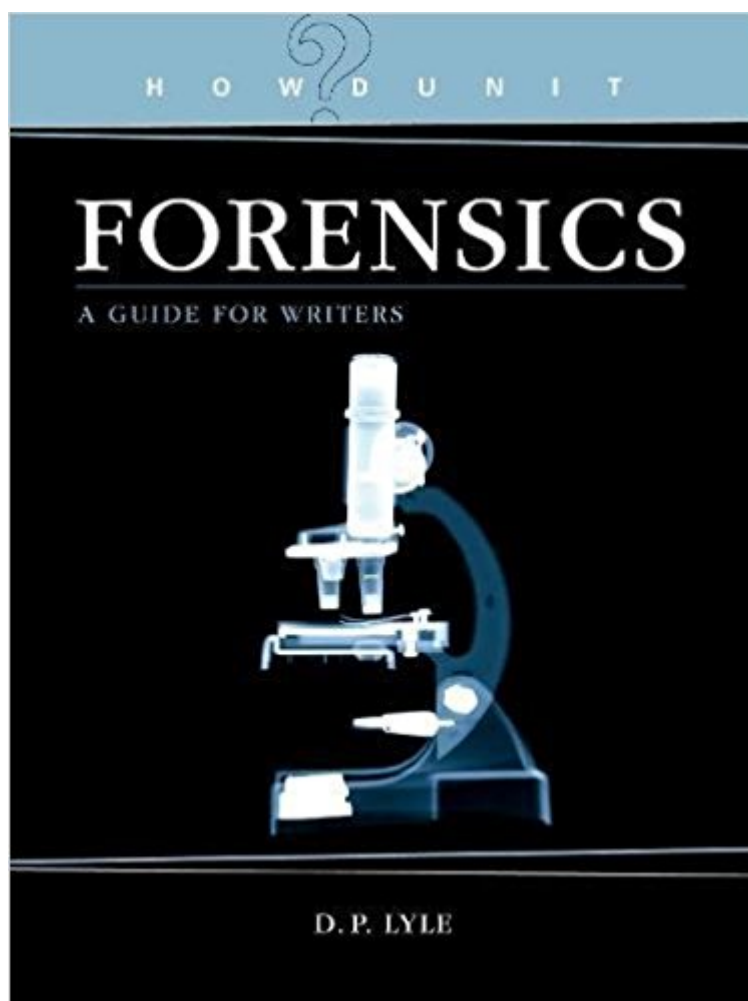


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Howdunit Forensics



Synopsis

Just because you don't have all the tools and training of a full-time medical examiner doesn't mean you can't learn your way around a crime scene. In *Forensics*, award-winning author and TV show consultant D.P. Lyle, M.D., takes each area of forensics—from fingerprint analysis to crime scene reconstruction—and discusses its development, how the science works, how it helps in crime solving, and how you as a writer might use this technique in crafting your plot. This comprehensive reference guide includes:

- Real-life case files and the role forensic evidence played in solving the crimes
- A breakdown of the forensics system from its history and organization to standard evidence classification and collection methods
- Detailed information on what a dead body can reveal—including the cause, mechanism, and manner of death
- The actual steps taken to preserve a crime scene and the evidence that can be gathered there, such as bloodstains, documents, fingerprints, tire impressions, and more

Forensics is the ultimate resource for learning how to accurately imbue your stories with authentic details of untimely demises.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

D. P. Lyle, MD is the Macavity Award winning and Edgar Award nominated author of the nonfiction books *Murder and Mayhem: A Doctor Answers Medical and Forensic Questions for Mystery Writers* and *Forensics for Dummies*. His published fiction includes the thrillers *Devil's Playground* and *Double Blind*. He has worked as a story and technical consultant with many published authors and with the writers and producers of several popular television shows, including *Law & Order*, *CSI*:

A complete introduction to the field of Forensics written for beginners. If you are talking about police investigations you will need to read this book front-to-back so you don't accidentally call someone a Pathologist instead of a Coroner. I rated this book at 5 stars for completeness but I was tempted to deduct a star for the awful publishing quality. The printer of this book reminds me of an old photocopy machine where solid blocks of colour have ink streaking and there are occasional ink spots, actually, this book was printed with an old photocopy machine.

The Howdunit Forensics book covers everything from DNA testing, to forgery, to asphyxia, and it covers it thoroughly. For testing methods (i.e. paternity, DNA, etc.), the book will give you procedures, uses, how long they take, what kind of materials can be used to carry out the tests, the shortcomings of each test, and more. For murder situations such as asphyxia and gunshot wounds, "Forensics" covers different types of strangulation and goes into how investigators can tell them apart. It's very specific, very informative, but not so informative that the reference feels like a textbook. There were times when I looked up a couple of things on the internet to supplement the information in the book, but it's a reference book, and in that regard, it does its job extremely well. And it definitely makes research a lot easier. I really don't have anything to complain about with the book. Great for writers, easy to read/understand, just an all around good reference book.

very worthwhile

This had quite a few things in it that i wouldn't have thought of that i can use for writing my mystery works. I would say that it is a vital tool for a mystery writer to have for our work.

An excellent reference for writing crime. This is well organized, and dare I say, enjoyable to read compared to some of the more dry, tech books on the subject.

This book was required for a masters level course I was taking. Normally required texts are barely used and are frustratingly expensive. I'm very glad this book was required! It is a GREAT resource for those studying forensics and those who are working professionals in the field. Usually I return texts that I do not feel will offer real assistance at some point in the future. I kept this text, and I have it downloaded on my kindle.

Real-life case files and the role forensic evidence played in solving the crimes. A breakdown of the forensics system from its history and organization to standard evidence classification and collection methods. Detailed information on what a dead body can reveal- including the cause, mechanism, and manner of death. The steps taken to preserve a crime scene and the evidence that can be gathered there, such as bloodstains, document tampering, tire impressions, and more. Forensics is the ultimate resource for learning how to write your stories with authentic details of untimely demises.

DP Lyle is a medical doctor and forensics expert who grants his time to answering writer's questions and producing work that helps those writers get the details correct in their books. Anyone writing any forensic scene should have this book on their shelf (or in the Kindle collection). Lyle's blog is a staple of mystery and crime writers and books like this provide great reference material for your work.

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