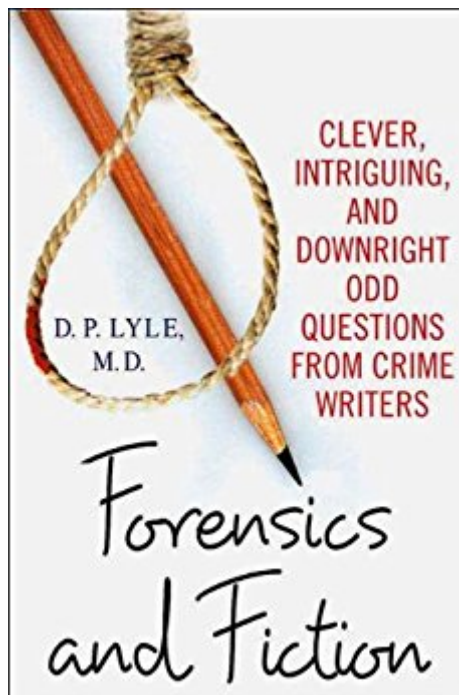




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# Forensics And Fiction: Clever, Intriguing, And Downright Odd Questions From Crime Writers



## Synopsis

How long can someone survive in a cold, damp cave without food or water? How was diphtheria treated in 1886? Can Botox kill? Can DNA be found on a knife years later? How are mummified corpses identified? How long does it take blood to clot when spilled on a tile floor? What happens in death from electrocution? As a consultant to many novelists around the world and to the writers of such popular TV shows as Monk, Law & Order, House, and CSI: Miami, D. P. Lyle, M.D., has answered many cool, clever, and oddball questions over the years. *Forensics and Fiction: Clever, Intriguing, and Downright Odd Questions from Crime Writers* is a collection of the best of these questions. The answers are provided in a concise and entertaining fashion that will keep you wide awake so you can read "just one more."

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This third book by D.P. Lyle, M.D. continues the format of his other two volumes and begins with the caveat, "This book is to provide writers of fiction with answers to basic and complex questions on medical and forensic issues. It is not to be used for diagnosis or for real-life behavior." That said, the

Table of Contents lists 283 pages of questions concerning causes and results of death; an Index alphabetizes the subjects from "abortive herbs" to "zombie killers." For ease in looking up a particular question, the pages are divided into five categories: Traumatic Injuries...;Poisons, Toxins,drugs....;The Crime Scene and Lab....;The Coroner, Body and Autopsy....;Odds and Ends -- Mostly Odds.Two definitely odd questions in that category include, "Could my character hide inside a corpse?" and " Do Zombie Killers leave behind forensic evidence?" Oh well....Authors would agree with one of the book jacket's blurbs, "Indispensable... Don't even think of writing a medical mystery without the wise counsel of Dr. D.P. Lyle." Unlike Lyle's first book, "Murder and Mayhem," this one allows an author to list his/her name and books -- nice publicity!

Engaging and informative. I write crime mysteries for my own amusement and it is wonderful to have an authoritative source to be able to get the facts right. I think it would be interesting to anyone who enjoys crime shows, regardless of writing.This book also delves into medical care in past times, even ancient times. That is really hard information to come by for the casual crime mystery (or even historical fiction) author.

DP Lyle writes a number of forensic books and a blog aimed at writers getting the forensics correct in their stories. As such, he receives letters and emails from writers with specific questions about their own particular needs, which he answers with amazing grace. This book is a collection of some of those questions and their answers and, for entertainment value alone, is extremely valuable to any writer. For mystery, thriller and crime writers who might use this information in their next work, the answers contained in this book are fabulous.

I loved this book. As a fiction thriller writer, I'm always trying to find ways to make my scenes as realistic as possible. This book will help achieve that. It's straight forward, authors asked questions and the author, who is a medical doctor, answered them thoroughly how those scenarios would play out in real life.It was also fun to read some of the whacky scenes these authors were cooking up!! truly believe this book is a must have for crime/thriller writers. I already ordered this author's follow up book to this one and his Forensic Dummies guide. Great stuff.

This book was extremely to a "novice" murder mystery genre writer. I'm only 13 chapters into my book and this book gave me lots of answers to questions I hadn't even asked yet. It's easy to read, well-organized and the categories are great. Will look for more from this author!

Forensics and Fiction by D. P. Lyle, M.D. is the kind of book every mystery writer should have at hand. It explains what happens when a person is killed by poison or other means so an author doesn't commit grievous errors when describing a murder. Great reference book.

I use this in ebook form and find it quite helpful and easy to access when I need it. The table of contents is organized well and the whole book is so comprehensive, you'll even find yourself getting ideas for your next mystery !

This book is OK, but not great. it has some good parts, but I was hoping for more excitement.

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