



# The Best American Mystery Stories of the Nineteenth Century

*Otto Penzler*

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**The Best American Mystery Stories of the Nineteenth Century** Otto Penzler

**An unparalleled treasury of crime, mystery, and murder from the genre's founding century**

With stories by Washington Irving, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Mark Twain, Louisa May Alcott, L. Frank Baum, Edith Wharton, Stephen Crane, and Jack London, *The Best American Mystery Stories of the Nineteenth Century* is an essential anthology of American letters. It's a unique blend of beloved writers who contributed to the genre and forgotten names that pioneered the form, such as Anna Katharine Green, the godmother of mystery fiction, and the African-American writer Charles W. Chesnutt. Of course, Penzler includes "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," recognized as the first detective story, and with thirty-three stories spanning the years 1824–1899, nowhere else can readers find such a surprising, comprehensive take on the evolution of the American mystery story.

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