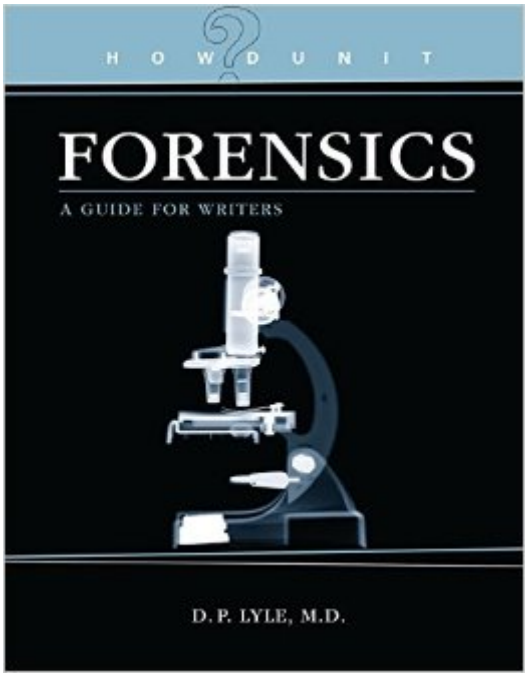
Howdunit Forensics



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 crimesA breakdown of the forensics system from its history and organization to standard evidence classification and collection methodsDetailed information on what a dead body can reveal—including the cause, mechanism, and manner of deathThe actual steps taken to preserve a crime scene and the evidence that can be gathered there, such as bloodstains, documents, fingerprints, tire impressions, and moreForensics 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

"Howdunit: Forensics" is a basic course in forensics. Though the subtitle says it’s a guide for writers, there’s a lot more information in it than an author could use in a novel without bogging the action down (though I do highly recommend they read this!). It’s actually a book for anyone interested in learning the basics of forensics. It doesn’t say things like, "In your novel, you could do this..." but simply gives real life examples of how everything works or how real criminals act.The book was

well-written and interesting. I never had a problem following what the author was explaining even though it did get technical at times. A wide range of topics were covered with enough depth that most people would learn all they cared to know. Brief, real case files or made-up examples were used to demonstrate how a certain technique is used to reconstruct the crime scene or help identify a criminal. The book covered murders, but also theft, arson, and forgery. It talked about determining if a death was from natural causes, accident, suicide, or homicide. The author also gave a little history about how various techniques were developed and improved over the decades.Overall, I'd highly recommend this book to anyone who wants to know more about forensics.