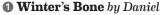


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THE MOST READS EVER

othic dramas, serial killers and derring-do secret agents. Which mysteries, thrillers and suspense novels are considered the greatest of all time? These bestselling writers share their picks. —Michael Giltz



Woodrell Before Jennifer Lawrence starred as an Ozark teen in the Holly-

wood adaptation, Winter's Bone was a hit, according to James Patterson (whose novel with Dolly Parton, Run, Rose, Run, is out March 7). "It's rare, maybe a 100,000 to 1 shot, that a novel will succeed on every level—story, characters, dialogue and description that rises to the level of poetry. But that's what Woodrell achieved here."

2 A Judgement in Stone by Ruth Rendell "You know the victims,

killer and motive from the first sentence," says author **Donna Leon** (her latest Brunetti mystery, *Give Unto Others*, is out March 15). "But the reader nds the next 300 pages hoping to

spends the next 300 pages hoping to prevent these poor lambs from leading themselves to the slaughter."

3 True Grit by Charles Portis
Author Jasper Fforde (The Constant

Rabbit) says this stone-cold classic (narrated by an unforgettable 14-year-old girl) belongs in the celebration of thrillers: "A revenge story, manhunt,

thriller and a story of trust, love, bravery and tenacity—*True Grit* has it all."

WINTER'S

Rendell

PATRICIA HIGHSMITH

4 A Perfect Spy by John le Carré No one writes espionage like le Carré,

says The Bone Collector author
Jeffery Deaver. "I've picked
A Perfect Spy because it is
also one of the most engrossing and harrowing portraits of a
father-son relationship I've ever read."

The Talented Mr. Ripley by Patricia Highsmith It is one of the best (if not the best) thrillers of all

time, says **Karin Slaughter**, whose latest novel, *Girl*, *Forgotten*, hits shelves later this year. "Tom Ripley is not just a classic antihero, he is a precursor to so many flawed men we're meant to root for, from Don Draper to Tony Soprano."

3 Live and Let Die by Ian Fleming For author Ken Follett

(Never), this second entry in the James Bond series—more brutal and blunt than the films—leads the thriller pack. "I remember asking my

father what a martini was," Follett

For our full list of the 101 best mystery novels of all time, head to **Parade.com/mysteries**. And check out **Parade.com/thrills** for 111 of the greatest thriller and suspense novels ever.

says. "'Some kind of drink,' he said grumpily, clearly having no idea. I could hardly wait to find out."

Room by Emma Donoghue The darkest novels don't plunge us into depravity but shine a light so we can confront them. That's why Room captured the imagination of bestselling au-

thor **Kristin Hannah** (Firefly Lane, The Four Winds). "It's quite simply one of the most powerful, most beautiful novels I've ever read," she says. "It's one of those stories

that lingers and makes you see the world in a slightly different way."



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