

Titanic Murder Mystery Ideas

Nordic Noir/Scandinavian Noir/Arctic Noir

Murder Mystery Genre

- Edgar Allen Poe's short story "The Murders in the Rue Morgue" (1841) is often credited as inventing detective fiction. Brilliant detective C. Auguste Dupin solves the case, but the solution is quite shocking. (The murderer was not a human being.)
- Vestergard's *Titanic* riffs on the murder mystery genre, but rejects many of the genre's conventions:
 - The killer's personal motive is never made clear. The murder was caused by a supernatural force.
 - The victim's assistant is thrust into the detective role. In this world, it would be easy to put Sherlock Holmes or Hercule Poirot on the Titanic to solve the crime.

Stieg Larsson, Millennium series



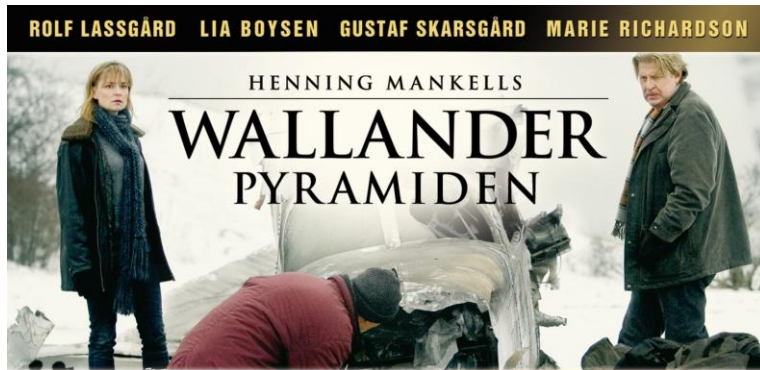
*The Girl with the
Dragon Tattoo.*

2009 Swedish film
(left)

2011 Hollywood film
(right)



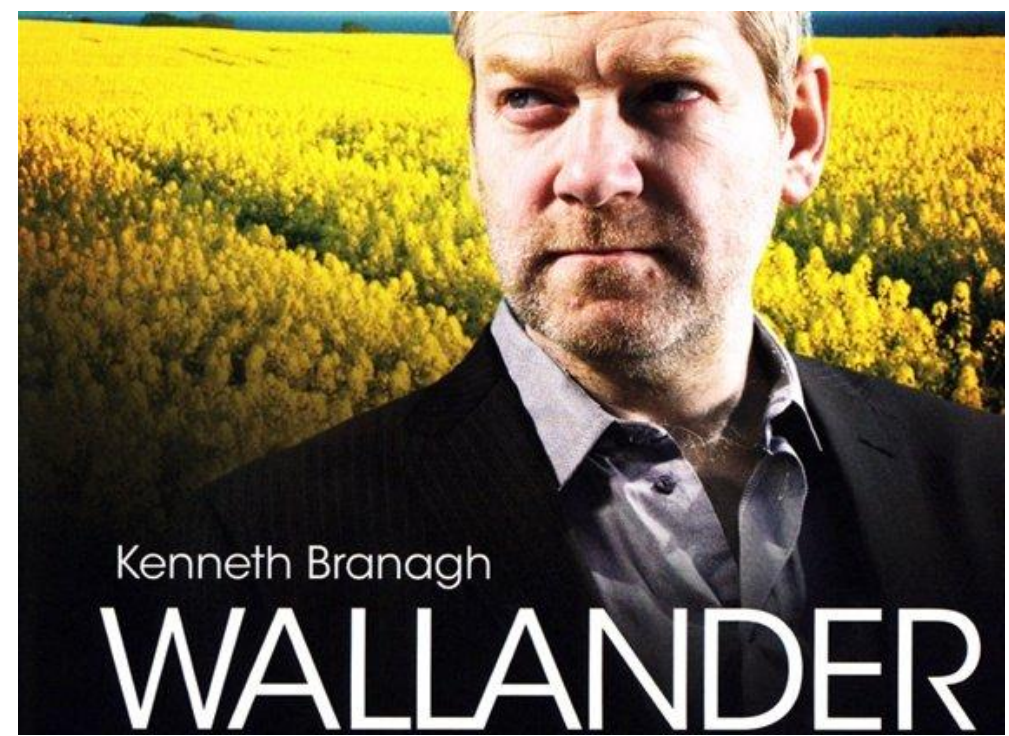
Henning Mankell, Kurt Wallander series



Swedish film series,
1990s (left)

Swedish TV series
(below)

BBC series (right)



Varg Veum

19 Novels by Gunnar Staalesen (Norwegian)



Other TV Series: Arctic Circle; Trapped



Article on “Arctic Noir” <https://theweek.com/culture-life/tv-radio/arctic-noir-shows-true-detective>

More Murder Mystery thoughts

- The genre is somewhat formulaic and time bound. Certain things happen in a certain order.
- There is a sense of morality and ethics; disorder is restored to order when the murder is solved.
- Gathering of suspects near the end is more typical in a cozy mystery featuring an amateur detective (Agatha Christie); police procedurals tend to end with an interrogation or a chase scene that leads to a shootout.
- As a viewer, you know how much time is left in an episode of *Murder, She Wrote* or *Matlock*. As a reader, you know how many pages are left in the book.
- Sometimes more complex: *CSI* franchise typically includes multiple cases worked by different teams. John Sandford's Minnesota-based Davenport and Flowers series often sees detectives working two or three cases that come together in the end. Michael Connelly's Harry Bosch series sometimes has an earlier solution and leaves room at the end for Bosch to reflect on his messy personal life. Sue Grafton's Kinsey Millhone series and Diane Mott Davidson's caterer/detective series feature women detectives who are typically in peril near the end of the book.