



Framing the Clue-Puzzle

The Paratextual Voice in Golden Age Detective Fiction

By Zi-Ling Yan

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Explores how para texts in detective fiction impact the construction of meaning, revealing how narrative framing shapes knowledge, justice, and interpretation.

In *Framing the Clue-Puzzle* Zi-Ling Yan investigates the semiotization of fictive paratexts in interwar Anglo-American detective fiction, and the means by which they subtly frame ideological positions within major mystery fiction themes, such as justice and normative notions of criminality.

Readership

Readers are primarily students and professional academics researching the following fields: detective fiction subgenres, narratology, and Anglo-American interwar popular culture.

Key selling points

Demonstrates that para texts are inadequately treated in existing detective fiction scholarship.

Includes wide reference to primary sources (530 novels or tales).

Presents a systematic treatment of all major paratextual forms (prefaces, footnotes, maps/plans, and diagrams).

Applies Relevance Theory to literary works in conjunction with Richard Walsh's work on fictionality.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Zi-Ling Yan is professor of English at National University of Tainan.

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